Celebrities and Chess
By Bill Wall

Former NBA basketball star Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (1947-) plays chess. He was observed reading a chess book (*Chess Tactics for Champions* by Susan Polgar) at the Bonnaroo music festival in June, 2011.

Claude Akins (1926-1994) was an enthusiastic chess player. He learned how to play chess in college and played chess with friends and actors throughout his life. During the making of the 1959 movie *Rio Bravo* (he played Joe Burdette), he played chess constantly with John Wayne, Dean Martin, and Ricky Nelson. Akins said that he taught Dean Martin how to play chess. In 1973, Claude starred in *Battle for the Planet of the Apes* (he was Aldo). Between takes, Claude was always playing chess in a gorilla costume. Claude played in one of Walter Browne's blitz tournaments and was a spectator (along with Morgan Fairchild and Gene Scherer) with a front row seat at the 1988 World Action Chess Championship in Mazatlan, Mexico. One of his regular chess partners was actor William Windom (1923-Aug 16, 2012). There is a photo of Claude Akins and William Windom playing chess in the March 1988 issue of *Chess Life*.

Actor Alan Alda (born in 1936) is a chess player. He usually plays chess on his computer. In the 1977 CBS TV movie, *Kill Me if You Can*, Alda played Caryl Chessman (1921-1960), who spent 12 years on death row before being executed in 1960. Chessman played chess while on death row. In the 2011 movie, *Tower Heist*, he plays chess online. Arthur Shaw (Alan Alda), as a crooked businessman, talks to Josh Kovacs (Ben Stiller) about the Marshall chess swindle involving Frank Marshall and Lewitsky in a World Championship game in 1912 in Helsinki. Alda called the swindle as the greatest move in the history of chess. Alda should have known better. It was a real game, but not a world championship game, and not in Helsinki (it was played in Breslau, now called Wroclaw). Alan's father, Robert Alda (1914-1986), may also have been a chess player. Robert Alda played a chess hustler (Bruce Conrad) in the 1946 movie, *Beast with Five Fingers*. His opponent was Francis Ingram (Victor Francen).

Former NFL running back Shaun Alexander (1977-) plays chess. While playing for the Seattle Seahawks, he gave $7,500 to sponsor a chess-in-the-schools program at Madrona Elementary School in Seattle. He has given over $25,000 for chess programs.

Billionaire Paul Allen (1953-2018), co-founder of Microsoft, played chess. So does Bill Gates (1955-), who lost to world chess champion Magnus Carlsen in 12 seconds, getting mated in 9 moves. Paul Allen wrote that he had to stop playing chess with Bill Gates because Gates was such a bad loser, he would sweep the chess pieces to the floor in anger when he lost.

Film comedian Woody Allen (1935-) plays chess on occasion, and taught his stepson, Moses Farrow, how to play. He wrote a funny short story about correspondence chess, called The Gossage-Vardebedian Papers.

Actress June Allyson (1917-2006) played chess. There is a photo of her playing Van Johnson in her trailer between takes on The Bride Goes Wild.

Astronaut Neil Armstrong (1930-2012) was a chess player. In the book, *One Giant Leap: Neil Armstrong's Stellar American Journey*, by Leon Wagener, the author pointed out that Neil Armstrong played chess with his six-year-old son Mark, who was fast becoming a skilled player. The occasion was just after Armstrong's return from the moon and after his quarantine period.

Actor James Arness (1923-2011) played chess.

Actor Lew Ayres (1908-1996) played chess. He was on the executive board of the Hollywood Chess Club, along with Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., in the 1930s. In the 1946 movie, *The Dark Mirror,* psychiatrist Scott Eliot (Lew Ayres) studies a chess position at home.

Actor Adam Baldwin (1962-) plays chess. In 1987, he starred in *Full Metal Jacket*. While on the set, he played about 50 games of chess with Stanley Kubrick. When Baldwin was asked if he had a great memory from *Full Metal Jacket*, he responded, "Beating Stanley Kubrick at chess." There is a photo of him playing blitz chess with William Windom in 1988. In the 1992 movie, *Deadbolt*, Alec (Adam Baldwin) plays chess with Marty Hiller (Justine Bateman) and Jordan (Chris Mulkey).

Actor Alec Baldwin (1958-) plays chess. In 2013, he donated $2,500 to help the chess team at Central Falls High School in Rhode Island defray the cost of traveling to a national scholastic chess event. The team took 8th place out of 63 teams at the Supernationals in Nashville, Tennessee.

Actor Antonio Banderas (1960-) plays chess. In the 1995 movie, *Assassins*, Miguel Bain (Antonio Banderas) plays chess with Robert Rath (Sylvester Stallone). In the 2008 movie, *The Other Man*, Ralph (Antonio Banderas) plays chess with Paul (Liam Neeson).

John Barrymore (1882-1942) was perhaps the strongest chess player in Hollywood, according to Fritz Feld. He played chess with Herman Steiner. John's older brother, Lionel Barrymore (1878-1954), was also a chess player.

Tennis start Boris Becker (1967-) plays chess. He played a game against Garry Kasparov and Nigel Short. In 2011, at the London Chess Classic, he made the first move for Magnus Carlsen. As a tennis coach to Novak Djokovic, the to play chess together.

Novelist, playwright and poet Samuel Becket (1906-1989) was obsessed with chess. He had a lifelong interest in chess and was a keen player. His chess books in his library are full of comments as he played over master games. He wrote a one-act play called 'Endgame.' He often played chess with artist Marcel Duchamp.

Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin (1913-1992) played chess. He played chess against Zbigniew Brzezinski at Camp David and won. In 1940 he was playing a game of chess with his wife when Russian soldiers burst into his home to arrest him. As they dragged him away, he shouted to Mrs Begin, "I resign."

Actress Joan Bennett (1910-1990) played chess. She played chess with Humphrey Bogart during the filming of *We're No Angels*.

Polly Bergen (1930-2014) played chess. Gregory Peck taught her how to play chess between scenes when they both starred in Cape Fear in 1962.

Actor Dan Blocker (1978-1972), who played Hoss Cartwright on Bonanza, played chess. He and Michael Landon played chess while on the set of Bonanza.

Astronaut Guion "Guy" Bluford (1942-), the first African-American astronaut to fly in space, flew on four Shuttle missions. He was a chess player and captain of his high school chess team.

Humphrey Bogart (1899-1957) is perhaps the most well known chess-playing actor. He learned chess as a teenager in New York City. In 1929, after the stock market crashed, he hustled chess players for money in New York City parks and at Coney Island. He was known to have played chess and hustle in Times Square as late as 1933. In the 1942 movie, *Casablanca*, Rick Blaine (Humphrey Bogart) played chess with Captain Louis Renault (Claude Rains). All the chess playing scenes were his idea. He wanted a character that was a chess player that drank too much. There were some chess scenes of Bogart studying a chess game while Peter Lorre looked on, but these scenes did not make the final cut in the film. During the making of *Casablanca*, Bogart played several games with Paul Henreid (1908-1992), who played Victor Laszlo in Casablanca. According to Henreid, Bogart didn't win a single game from him. During World War II, Bogart played correspondence chess with sever GIs overseas. One of his chess postcards to one of the troops sold for $2,500 in a recent Hollywood auction. In 1944, during the making of *Passage to Marseille*, Bogart played many of the actors and film crew during breaks. In the June-July 1945 issue of *Chess Review*, Bogart and his new wife, Lauren Bacall, appeared in the cover while Bogart played Charles Boyer a game of chess during a break in the making of *The Confidential Agent*. Bogart showed up on the set almost every lunch hour in the set to play Boyer a game of chess. In the 1949 movie, *Knock on Any Door*, attorney Andrew Morton (Humphrey Bogart) is playing chess with Susan Perry (Candy Toxton) and Mr. Elkins (Curt Conway). During breaks of his films, Bogart played a lot of chess with his make-up artist, Karl Silvera. In the early 1950s, Marlon Brando would drive over to Bogart's elegant mansion in Holmby Hills, and the two would play chess for hours. In the 1955 movie, *The Left Hand of God*, Jim Carmody/Father O'Shea (Humphrey Bogart) checkmates Dr. Dave Sigmond (E.G. Marshall). In 1956, Bogart, as Black, drew former U.S. chess champion Sammy Reshevsky in a 70 board simultaneous exhibition in Los Angeles. The game lasted 28 moves in a bishop and pawns vs knight and pawns endgame. A few years earlier, Bogart lost to George Koltanowski in a blindfold exhibition in San Francisco. When Bogart was dying of cancer, his only activity with friends was playing chess. His most common chess partner in his last days was screenwriter and film director Richard Brooks, who probably was Bogart's last chess opponent in late 1956.

World sprinting champion Usain Bolt (1986-) plays chess and is a chess devotee.

Irish singer Bono (Paul Hewson, born on May 10, 1960), of U2, is a chess player. Around the age of 12, during the Fischer-Spassky world championship match, he became obsessed with the game of chess and became quite good. At one time, he was a school boy chess champion.

English singer and actor David Bowie (1947-) plays chess. He played chess with actress Catherine Deneuve on the set of the movie *The Hunger.*

Actor Charles Boyer (1899-1978) played chess. In June-July 1945, he appeared on the cover of Chess Review magazine playing a game of chess with Humphrey Bogart.

Actor Marlon Brando (1924-2004) played chess. Chess was a lifelong passion with Brando. He learned chess as a teenager and tried to teach his friend, Wally Cox (1924-1973), how to play chess. Brando later moved to New York City and continued to play chess. He was not a strong player and a poor loser. Whenever he lost, he would knock all the pieces off the board and say, "I'm bored." He did play a lot of chess anc would call his friends at all hours to invite them over to play some chess. Sondra Lee, an actress and Brando's girlfriend during his theater days, played chess and was able to beat Marlon Brando in most of the games they played. Marlon Brando almost always played chess between scenes and during breaks on the movie sets. In 1953, Marlon Brando played chess between scenes while filming Julius Caesar. A Hollywood reporter wanted to get an interview with Brando. Brando agreed if the reporter would play a game of chess with him. The reporter did play a game of chess against Brando and won. Brando later said about the interview, "That was the worst interview I ever gave." Brando played many chess games with Humphrey Bogart. When Brando died, his chess sets were auctioned by Christie's in Los Angeles in 2005 (purchased by Neville Tuli, an art collector).

English business magnate and investor Richard Branson (1950-) is a keen chess player. He has met Garry Kasparov. Branson thinks chess is the best game in the world and says he has played thousands games over his lifetime.

Writer, director, actor and comedian Mel Brooks (1926-) played chess. International Master Kim Commons gave him chess lessons. He incorporated chess-playing scenes in many of his movies.

Jim Brown (1936-), NFL fullback who played for the Cleveland Browns, and considered one of the greatest running backs of all time, is an avid chess player.

Nigel Bruce (1895-1953), who was best known for his portrayal of Dr. Watson, played chess. He was a member of the Hollywood Chess Group and the Herman Steiner Chess Club. He played in several Hollywood chess tournaments. In the 1940 movie, *Susan and God*, Hutchie (Nigel Bruce) plays chess with Amos (Sam Harris). In the 1943 movie, *Sherlock Holmes Faces Death*, Dr. Watson (Nigel Bruce) helps Sherlock Holmes (Basil Rathbone) solve a mystery by playing a living chess game from moves found in a family ritual.

Actor James Caan (1940-) plays chess. He played chess with John Wayne. James Caan's son, Scott Caan, also plays chess.

Composer John Cage (1912-1992) played chess with Marcel Duchamp.

Actor Nicholas Cage (1964-) plays chess and is a member of the Internet Chess Club (ICC). In 1999, he sent his son, Weston, to a chess master to take chess lessons.

Comic actor Sid Caesar (1922-2014) played chess. In *Who's Who 2004*, it mention chess as his leisure activity.

Actor James Cagney (1899-1986) played chess between takes on movie sets.

Film director and producer Frank Capra (1897-1991) played chess. He played chess with Barbara Stanwyck on the set of Meet John Doe.

Opera tenor Enrico Caruso (1873-1921) played chess and took lessons from Yugoslav master Boris Kostich (1887-1963),

Actor and comedian Drew Carrey (1958-) plays chess.

Jimmy Carter (1924-), 39th U.S. President, was a chess player. He wanted to become a chess expert after he left the White House. He bought numerous chess books and a computer chess program. He finally gave up on chess around 1997, saying: "I found that I don't have any particular talent for chess. I hate to admit it, but that's a fact." He made handcraft chess sets and sold them for charity.

NBA basketball player Wilt Chamberlain (1936-1999) played chess. He started playing chess when he attended the University of Kansas. Chamberlain invited Bobby Fischer to dinner at his house once, but Fischer didn't want to meet any other people, so declined.

Astronaut Dr. Gregory Chamitoff (1962-) plays chess. In June 2008, mission specialist astronaut Chamitoff brought a Velcro chessboard (a magnetic chess set would have interfered with some electronics on board) with him on the space shuttle. In August 2008, he played a chess match against Houston Mission Control and won two games against ground control while playing chess on the International Space Station (ISS). At one point, a rook did not stick to the Velcro board and floated away. It was later found in one of the airflow return filters in the US Laboratory on the ISS. In 2011, he played chess while aboard the International Space Station. From May 16 to June 1, 2011, an Earth vs. Space Match was held between earth members and the team of Chamitoff and Pilot Greg Johnson of STS 134 (last U.S. space launch) on the Endeavour Space Shuttle to the International Space Station. It was sponsored by NASA and the USCF (match director was Hal Bogner). The mission, and the game, lasted 16 days. The public voted on the moves made via Facebook and Twitter. A chess board flown on the Endeavour Space Shuttle is on display at the U.S. and World Chess Hall of Fame in Saint Louis. It was signed by the 2010 U.S. Men's and Women's Chess Championship.

Silent screen comedian Charlie Chaplin (1889-1977) occasionally played chess. In 1921, he was one of 20 players to play simultaneously against Sammy Reshevsky at the Los Angeles Athletic Club.

Blind musician Ray Charles (1930-2004) played chess. Ray was known to be a chess fan and often played against fellow band members, friends, and even at times interviewers. Ray's chess board was designed so that each square has the same color, but the 'dark' squares were slightly elevated and the 'light' squares were slightly lowered. Each square also had a hole in which to fit the pieces, in the style of traveling sets. The dark pieces' tops had sharper edges in comparison to the whites. His chess set was once displayed at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and is now in the Smithsonian National Museum.

Lord Randolf Churchill (1849-1895) was one of the founders of the Oxford University Chess Club. His son, Winston Churchill (1874-1965), who became British Prime Minister, played chess.

Author Tom Clancy (1947-2013) played chess. While attending Loyola College in Baltimore, Maryland, he was president of the chess club. In Clancy's *Rainbow Six: Vegas 2* video game, there are several references to chess. He also had several chess references in his Jack Ryan books.

Actress and singer Rosemary Clooney (1928-2002) played chess.

Actor Lee J. Cobb (1911-1976) played chess. In the 1939 movie, *Golden Boy*, Mr. Bonaparte (Lee J. Cobb) plays chess with Mr. Carp (William Strauss). In the 1948 movie, *The Dark Past*, Dr. Andrew Collins (Lee J. Cobb) plays chess with Al Walker (William Holden).

Kurt Cobain (1967-1994), was an American musician who formed the band Nirvana. He was an avid chess player. He once carved a chess set for himself. He once mentioned that he hadn't been writing too much music because he was playing so much chess.

Actor Charles Coburn (1877-1961) was a strong chess player.

Astronaut Michael Collins (1930-2021), who flew on Gemini 10 and orbited the moon in the command module while Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin were on the moon, was more interested in chess than airplanes when he was growing up. Collins once said of Buzz Aldrin, he "would make a champion chess player, always thinks several moves ahead."

Actor Sean Connery (1930-2020) played chess. As a young man, he was a keen chess player. There are photographs of him playing Patrick McGoohan on the set of 'Hell Drivers.'

Actor Tom Cruise (1962-) plays chess. He played chess with Stanley Kubrick on the set of Eyes Wide Shut.

Artist Salvador Dali (1904-1989) played chess. He met Anatoly Karpov in New York in 1979 and they had lunch. Dali was accompanied by two gorgeous female fans, while Karpov was followed by a KGB guy. Dali was famous for his finger chess set that he designed.

Actor Timothy Dalton (1944-), who played James Bond, plays chess. In the past, he has visited the London Chess Centre and purchased an expensive wooden chess set.

Ted Danson (1947-), best known for his acting in *Cheers*, plays chess and has played Woody Harrelson in the past (Harrelson is the better player). In the 1980 TV film, *Lethal Games*, Jack Chenault (Ted Danson) plays chess with a computer. In the 2005 TV film, *Knights of the South Bronx*, Richard (Ted Danson) is a chess teacher and coach.

Bobby Darin (1936-1973) was an American singer and actor who loved to play chess. He was about to sponsor one of the largest chess tournaments in the United States when he died after heart surgery. The Darin Classic would have been a $25,000 prize tournament. Darin often played chess on his weekly TV show, the Bobby Darin Show. He was playing chess just before

he went into surgery. His wife, Sandra Dee, also played chess. Bobby Darin's son, Dodd, runs a chess publishing house.

Henry Darrow (1933-2021) played chess. He once held former world chess champion Boris Spassky to a draw and says he played Bobby Fischer. In an interview, he said he won many chess championships when he was young.

Actress Viola Davis (1965-) plays chess. In 2014, she donated $30,000 to the chess club at Central Falls High School in Rhode Island. Davis' sister is teacher at that school and Viola attend that school in the 1980s.

Olivia de Havilland (1935-2009) played chess. She played chess with Errol Flynn on the set of 'They Died with Their Boots On.' Her father, Walter Augustus de Havilland, played chess and was a member of the local chess club.

Actor James Dean (1931-1955) played chess. He played chess when on breaks during the filming of *Rebel Without a Cause.*

Actress Sandra Dee (1942-2005) played chess. She played chess with Rock Hudson.

Actress Catherine Deneuve (1943-) plays chess. She played chess with David Bowie on the set of *The Hunger.*

Film director Cecil B. deMille (1881-1959) played chess. He was a member of the Hollywood Chess Club and the Beverly Hills Chess Club. He played a game of chess against Jose Capablana in 1933.

Actor Dustin Diamond (1977- 2021) is a chess player. In 2001, he made a video called Dustin Diamond Teaches Chess. His father taught him how to play chess. He said he was master strength, but his highest USCF rating was 1369 in 1999.

Neil Diamond (1941-) is an American singer-songwriter. He is chess player. He said that he played chess now and then. He went to the same high school, Erasmus Hall High School, as Bobby Fischer.

Princess Diana (1961-1997) played chess. There is a picture of her playing chess with children while visiting a hospital in 1989.

The American actor and producer Leonardo DiCaprio (1974-) has been seen in public playing chess with a chess clock with some of his friends.

English write Charles Dickens (1812-1870) was a chess player. He wrote an article on all the London chess clubs during his time.

Actress Marlene Dietrich (1901-1992) played chess. She played chess with John Wayne on the set of *Pittsburgh* in 1942.

Paul Dirac (1902-1984) was a chess player, probably taught by his father, who gave him a chess set for Christmas. In his biography, *The Strangest Man – The Hidden Life of Paul Dirac, Quantum Genius*, by Graham Farmelo, it stated that Dirac worked all day long and took time off only for his Sunday walk and to play chess. He beat most students in the college chess club, sometimes several at the same time. He served for many years as president of the chess club of St. John's College, Cambridge. With his stepson, he would go over chess problems that they found in newspapers. He played chess with friends such as Peter Kapitza (1894-1984), a Russian physicist, who taught Dirac how to play tennis. When he lectured, he sometime linked subatomic particles to chess. In 1929, Dirac discussed chess problems with Heisenberg on their tour to Japan. After his return to Leipzig, Heisenberg wrote to Dirac: "You are wrong…in the question of mating a King and a Knight with a King and Rook; this is not possible according to the edition of 1926 of Dufresne's handbook of chess (the best book about theory of chess at the time)."

World Number 1 tennis player Novak Djokovic (1987-) of Serbia plays chess.

Scottish actor James Donald (1917-1993) played chess. He played chess with actor David Farrar (1908-1995) between takes of Cage of Gold.

Actor Tony Dow (1945-) plays chess.

Singer-songwriter Bob Dylan (1941-) was a keen chess player. Dylan's manager paid Bobby Fischer so Dylan could play chess with him.

Scientist Albert Einstein (1879-1955) played chess as a boy and occasionally when he was a student. In 1927, Einstein met Dr. Emanuel Lasker (1868-1941) in Berlin, and they became good friends. He wrote the forward of Johannes Hannak's biography of Emanuel Lasker. He always had a chess set and board set up at home on his coffee table. When he settled in Princeton, New Jersey, he played chess with some of the neighbor boys. Einstein's son was also a chess player. A claim that he played chess with J. Robert Oppenheimer in 1933 is probably false.

Queen Elizabeth II plays chess. She once commented, "I play, but I am always losing. I learned my chess the hard way." Prince Charles and Princess Anne were taught chess in their nursery. Prince William plays chess. Nelson Mandela gave Queen Elizabeth II a chess set in 1996.

Larry Ellison (1944-), founder and former CEO of Oracle, used to play tournament chess and said he put a lot of work into that.

Actor Erik Estrada (1949-) plays chess. He used to play chess against William Windom and has played in a celebrity chess tournament. An online article says that Estrada played in several USCF-rated tournaments, maintaining a rating of 1400, but the present USCF rating lookup shows no Erik Estrada.

Douglas Fairbanks, Jr (1909-2000) played chess. He was the president of the Hollywood Chess Club in 1932.

Actress Morgan Fairchild (1950-) plays chess. In 1989, she hosted a charity chess event in Mexico.

Peter Falk (1927-2011) played chess. He took chess lessons from master Dennis Waterman and visited chess tournaments.

John Fanning (1963-), co-founder of Napster and entrepreneur, built the first Internet chess server in the late 1980s.

Actress Mia Farrow (1945-) plays chess and had taken chess lessons.

American writer William Faulkner (1897-1962) played chess. He taught his stepson, Malcolm Franklin (1923-1977) to play chess.

Tennis great Roger Federer (1981-) plays chess. Boris Becker, who plays chess, says that Federer is the best chess player in the ATP tour.

Character actor Fritz Feld (1900-1993) played a lot of chess. He had a collection of over 300 photos of himself playing chess with other actors and actresses. His collection was exhibited at the Library of the Performing Arts at the Lincoln Center in New York. In the 1940s, U.S. chess champion Herman Steiner and International Master (later honorary grandmaster) George Koltanowski would visit his home in the evenings and they would play chess until 6 am the following morning. He played chess with Janet Leigh. He considered John Barrymore as the strongest chess player in Hollywood, followed by Humphrey Bogart, Charles Boyer, Charles Coburn, and Douglas Fairbanks, Jr.

Physicist Enrico Fermi (1901-1954) played chess.

Jose Ferrer (1912-1992) was an avid chess player. He played a game with Sammy Reshevsky and met Bobby Fischer. He acted as master of ceremonies during the 1961 Fischer-Reshevsky match potion that was held in Los Angeles. He took chess lessons from Herman Steiner and master Bob Jacobs.

Theoretical physicist and Nobel-prize winner Richard Feynman (1918-1988) played chess. In his lectures, he would compare physics laws with chess analogies. He was a member of his high school chess club.

Film producer and entrepreneur Ted Field (1953-) plays chess. He sponsored the 1990 world chess championship match between Karpov and Kasparov when part of the match was held in New York. He relaxes by playing blitz chess on the Internet.

Singer Eddie Fisher (1928-2010) played chess. He played chess against Artie Shaw and occasionally won.

Actor Errol Flynn (1909-1959) played chess. He played chess with Olivia de Havilland on the set of the film *They Died with Their Boots On*. Errol also played correspondence chess.

Glenn Ford (1916-2006) was a chess player. He played many games with Marlon Brando.

The Fonda family all played chess in real life and in film. In 1966, Henry Fonda (1905-1982) attended the second Piatigorsky Cup chess tournament in Santa Monica. In the 1976 movie, *Futureworld*, Chuck Brown (Peter Fonda) played chess with Traly Ballard (Blythe Danner). In the 1978 file, *The Greatest Battle*, General Foster (Henry Fonda (1905-1982)) had a chessboard and chess position in front of him in one of the scenes. When she was 21, Jane Fonda (1937-) played chess with Susan Strasberg on the beach in Malibu. It was during these chess games that Jane was encouraged to take acting lessons and become an actress. Jane Fonda encourages chess playing among children and teenagers at risk. Jane played chess with her ex-husband, Roger Vadim (1928-2000) in the 1960s.

Actor Jamie Foxx (1967-) plays chess. He started playing chess at age 7 from his biological father. He played chess between scenes in the movie, *Jarhead*.

English journalist David Frost (1939-2013) played chess. Former world chess champion Garry Kasparov was the last person interviewed by David Frost, a week before he passed away. In 1972, David Frost arranged to have Bobby Fischer fly to Bermuda for a celebrity lunch, at which Fischer chatted with economist John Kenneth Galbraith.

English actor, humorist, and novelist Stephen Fry (1957-) plays chess. He includes a philosophical conversation about chess in his novel *Revenge.*

Astronaut Christer Fuglesang (1957-), a Swedish physicist, flew on two Shuttle missions. He is a chess player. While in space, he played a game of chess against the Swedish public in 2009. He is a member of the Swedish Chess Academy. In August- September 2009 Fuglesang played chess while in space against readers of a Swedish newspaper. He lost the game, but when he returned to Earth, he received a Rybka program signed by five world chess champions (Kasparov, Karpov, Kramnik, Spassky, and Anand).

Clark Gable (1901-1960) played chess. There is a photo of him playing chess with Van Johnson during World War II. He also greeted Max Euwe, Sammy Reshevsky, and Herman Steiner when they visited him on set in 1949.

Actress Zsa Zsa Gabor (1917-2016) plays chess. In 1949, she played chess with her husband, George Sanders (1906-1972), on her honeymoon. George wrote in his autobiography that the two played chess nearly every night on their honeymoon.

Actress Ava Gardner (1922-1990) played chess. She was married to Artie Shaw, who played chess. Shaw hired a Russian chess master to tutor her and, after a few months of lessons, she started beating Shaw.

Mathematician and popular science writer Martin Gardner (1914-2010) was a lifelong chess fan. He played chess in high school and at the University of Chicago where he met and was friends with Sammy Reshevsky.

Bill Gates plays chess, but poorly.

Trumpeter Dizzie Gillespie (1917-1993) played chess. He played chess with Ray Charles. A game of chess occurred between Dizzie Gillespie and U.S. Supreme Court Justice Earl Warren in 1954 on an airplane. Gillespie also played chess with Charlie 'Bird' Parker and Billie Holiday. He also played correspondence chess.

English novelist and Nobel Prize winner William Golding (1911-1993) was an avid chess player. He mentioned chess in some of his writings.

Actor Cuba Gooding, Jr (1968-) plays chess. He was the main character in Life of a King, about a chess player.

Cary Grant (1904-1986) played chess.

Baseball pitcher Ron Guidry (1950-) plays chess. He appeared on the September 1983 cover of Chess Life magazine, making a pitch for chess. Guidry and Bruce Pandolfini were playing a chess game at Yankee stadium one day when manager Billy Martine came by, telling the players that the Yankee locker room was "no place to play."

Actress Barbara Hale (1922-2017) played chess. She was a member of the Herman Steiner Chess Club in Hollywood.

Actor Woody Harrelson (1961-) plays chess. He played Garry Kasparov to a draw in 1999.

Actress Dee Hartford (1928-2018) played chess.

The daughter of President Rutherford Hayes (1822-1893) said that her father had two hobbies: fishing and chess. He was a strong chess player, taught by his mother. He wrote about playing chess in his diary. He wrote "Somehow my faculties are so dull that nothing but chess seems to excite the attention…" His chess set is in the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center in Ohio.

Physicist Werner Heisenberg (1901-1976) was probably taught chess by his father. He spent his free time in the evenings playing chess, which he always won. He often held chess matches under his desk at school and could give Queen odds and still win. He would often play blindfold chess with his father while hiking. He was able to reconstruct entire games from memory. After he entered the university in Munich, his obsession with chess became so obvious that Professor Arnold Sommerfeld (1868-1951) finally had to forbid him to play, claiming it was a waste of his time and talents. Wolfgang Pauli (1900-1958) also told Heisenberg to give up chess and save whatever intellectual effort he could muster for physics. Heisenberg continued to play chess, however. During World War II, Heisenberg was convinced Germany would lose the war. He once said, "Hitler has a chess endgame with one rook less than the others, so he will lose – it will take a year." According to his wife, Heisenberg saw politics as a "game of chess, in which the feelings and passions of people are subordinated to the charted course of political events, just as the chess figures to the rules of the game."

World-renowned Norwegian figure skater and actress Sonja Henie (1912-1969) was perhaps the strongest female chess player in Hollywood.

Actress Katharine Hepburn (1907-2003) played chess. She carried a small leather chess set and played frequently on boats and trains. She took chess lessons from Herman Steiner.

Actor Charlton Heston (1923-2008) played chess. He was on his high school chess team.

Film director Alfred Hitchcock (1899-1980) played chess and added a few chess scenes in his movies.

Former NFL running back Priest Holmes (1973-) is an avid chess player who has founded and sponsored chess clubs. He sponsors chess tournaments through his Priest Holmes Foundation, encouraging education and enhancing the lives of children. When he retired from football, he said he enjoyed three things – playing chess, bass fishing, and riding motorcycles. He started a chess club in Kansas City.

Actor Bob Hoskins (1942-2014) played chess.

Actor Leslie Howard (1893-1943) played chess.

Actor and director Ron Howard (1954-) plays chess. He lists chess as his hobby.

Rock Hudson (1925-1985) played chess. He played chess with Sandra Dee between takes of the movie Come September. He played chess at his New Port Beach home and his Hollywood Hills home during the 1950s. He was a chronic browser for antiques and purchased several chess sets.

Businessman Carl Icahn (1936-) plays chess. He sometimes wagers thousands of dollars a game on chess between him and his son. Carl plays chess on his iPad.

Actor Rick Jason (1923-200) played chess. He was a member of the Beverly Hills Chess Club and visited various chess clubs in the Los Angeles area. He played chess with fellow chess players in the crew of the movie Prescription for Murder.

All the Jefferson Airplane band members, including Grace Slick, once took chess lessons from International Master Kim Commons.

Pope John Paul II (1920-2005) was a chess enthusiast. While acting as a vicar in Krakow, Poland, and then known as Karol Wojtyla, he frequently played chess with other students. His uncle was one of Poland's leading chess problemists.

Actor Van Johnson (1916-2008) played chess. He played June Allyson during takes on The Bride Goes Wild. He played Clark Gable during World War II.

Theoretical physicist Dr. Michio Kaku (1947-) played first board on his high school chess team at Cubberley High School in Palo Alto.

Physicist Peter Kapitza (1894-1984) won the 1978 Nobel Prize in Physics for his work in superfluidity. When he was living in Paris, he used to make a living by playing chess in the

small cafes for some wager. He pretended to be a beginner and, in the end, he would usually win.

Actress, model, and fashion designer Kim Kardashian (1980-) may play chess or wants to learn. In 2013, she tweeted "I want to learn how to play chess. Wondering if Levon Aronian can teach me!"

John F. Kennedy Jr (1960-1999) played chess. In 1975, he and his cousin, Mark Shriver, visited Moscow and played chess at the Moscow University Chess Club.

American novelist Jack Kerouac (1922-1969) played chess.

Deborah Kerr (1921-2007) played chess. She played chess with Clark Gable during the filming of *The Hucksters*.

American singer and actress Eartha Kitt (1927-2008) played chess. At one time, she played Catwoman in the TV series Batman.

Kevin Kline (1947-) plays chess. He improved his chess game for the film 'Queen to Play.'

Vitali Klitschko (1971-) is a Ukrainian politician and mayor of Kiev. He is a former WBC and WBO boxing heavyweight champion. He is a strong chess player and is a friend of former world chess champion Vladimir Kramnik. The two have played chess together. His younger brother, Vladimir (1976-), is also a former heavyweight world champion and strong chess player. Both brothers are also friends of Garry Kasparov.

Syndicated columnist and physician (psychiatrist) Dr. Charles Krauthammer (1950-2018) played chess. His USCF rating is 1630, but inactive for many years. He has chess boards in his office and a chess room at home. He says he only entered and played in one chess tournament, in 2002, and won $150.

Film director Stanley Kubrick (1928-1999) was an addicted chess player. He said that chess helped him develop patience and discipline. As a young man, he played chess for money (usually a nickel a game) in Washington Square Park in New York.

American jazz and big band drummer Gene Krupa (1909-1973) played chess.

Actor Michael Landon (1936-1991) played chess. He played with Dan Blocker on the set of Bonanza.

Actor Jude Law (1972-) plays chess. He oftentimes will play chess when taking a break during the shooting of a film.

Australian actor Heath Ledger (1979-2008) was an avid chess player. He learned chess at an early age and said he played at least one game of chess a day. He used to play almost every day at the Washington Square Park in New York. He won the Western Australia Junior Chess Championship at the age of 10.

Actress Vivien Leigh (1913-1967) played chess. There is a picture of her playing chess with Laurence Olivier during the filming of *Forty Ninth Parallel* in 1941.

Tennis great Ivan Lendl (1960-) plays chess. His father, Jiri Lendl, was a chess master, Czech junior champion and played in the Czechoslovakian chess championship.

Ex-Beatle John Lennon (1940-1980) was a chess player, along with his wife, Yoko Ono. Their son, Sean Lennon (1975-) plays chess and has taken chess lessons. He used to play a lot of chess in Washington Square Park in New York.

Boxer Lennox Lewis (1965-) plays chess. He funded an after-school chess program for disadvantaged youths, and one of them earned a university chess scholarship at Tennessee Tech.

Novelist and Nobel Prize winner Sinclair Lewis (1885-1951) played chess. He was a frequent visitor to the Marshall Chess Club. During the last period of his life, Lewis hired secretaries to play chess with him.

Actress Sophia Loren (1934-) plays chess.

Actor Peter Lorre (1904-1964) played chess.

Actress Myrna Loy (1905-1993) played chess. She took lessons from Herman Steiner and was a member of the Herman Steiner Chess Club.

Singer and actress Madonna (1958-) plays chess. She can be seen playing chess in some of her music videos. She and her husband, film director Guy Ritchie, took chess lessons from Scottish chess champion Alan Norris.

Actor Tobey Maguire (1975-) plays chess. He plays Bobby Fischer in the 2014 movie, Pawn Sacrifice.

Politician and anti-apartheid revolutionary Nelson Mandela (1918-2013) played chess. It was his favorite game.

French actor and mime Marcel Marceau (1923-2007) played chess.

Johnny Marks (1909-1985) was an American songwriter (Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer). He was a member of the Marshall Chess Club in New York for many years.

Singer and actor Dean Martin (1917-1995) played chess. He played chess with John Wayne and Claude Akins.

Actor and comedian Steve Martin (1945-) plays chess. He played chess with director Stanley Kubrick when he visited his house in England. Steve was in the audience during the 1990 Kasparov-Karpov world championship match in New York.

Actor Jerry Mathers (1948-), who played Beaver in *Leave It To Beaver*, is a chess enthusiast.

Tennis great John McEnroe (1959-) plays chess. When he wasn't playing tennis, he played chess with other tennis players. He described himself as a good, but no great, chess player among the other tennis players. He would play two-hour chess matches between tennis. He and tennis player Peter Fleming played a lot of chess together.

Yehudi Menuhin (1916-1999) was an American violinist and conductor. Louis Persinger gave Menuhin violin and chess lessons at an early age. After a recital at the Paris Opera, 12-year-old Menuhin gave interviews while playing chess.

Actor Ray Milland (1907-1986) played chess. He played chess during breaks on the film Hostile Witness. He usually had two chess sets in his dressing room at the studios. He used one to play on, and another for a correspondence game he was involved with.

Professional tennis player Max Mirnyi (1977-) plays chess.

Musician Joni Mitchell (1943-) plays chess.

Actor Robert Mitchum (1917-1997) played chess. He used to play chess with John Wayne.

Singer, song-writer Moby (1965-) plays chess.

Actress Marilyn Monroe (1926-1962) many have played chess. In Marilyn Monroe: The Final Years, by Keith Badman, there is a section on some of her spending habits. She had purchased an expensive rosewood silver and gold chess set. She also received a carved ivory chess set as a gift from a friend.

Actor Barry Morse (1918-2008) played chess.

Astronaut and physician Story Musgrave (1935-) plays chess. He flew on the Shuttle 6 times. He listed chess as his hobby.

Singer Graham Nash (1942-) and founding member of Crosby, Stills & Nash, played chess and participated in a celebrity chess tournament in 1988.

Singer and actor Ricky Nelson (1940-1985) played chess. He played chess with Claude Akins.

Singer and songwriter Willie Nelson (1933-) is a chess player. He played many games against Ray Charles and Woody Harrelson.

Actor Paul Newman (1925-2008) played chess, but wasn't very good at it.

Leonard Nimoy (1931-2015) played chess and played chess with his children. As Spock on Star Trek, he played three dimensional chess.

Actor David Niven (1910-1983) played chess. He played on the set of *The Guns of Navarone* after Anthony Quinn organized a chess tournament for the actors, which included Gregory Peck and James Darren. David Niven's son was also played chess and was a strong player.

Actor Carroll O'Connor (1924-2001) played chess.

Yoko Ono (1933-), former wife of Beatle John Lennon, plays chess and has sponsored chess tournaments. She once designed al all white chess set, calling it *Play It By Trust.*

Actor Al Pacino (1940-) plays chess. He played chess on the set of *Righteous Kill*. He said he was always looking for chess players to play chess when he traveled.

Jazz saxophonist and composer Charlie 'Bird' Parker (1920-1955) played chess and loved the game. An Irish lady taught him how to play chess. He played chess with Dizzie Gillespie.

Gregory Peck (1916-2003) played chess. He taught Polly Bergen how to play chess during the making of *Cape Fear* in 1962. He played chess with others on the set of *The Guns of Navarone* in 1961. He often played chess with his wife, Veronique Passani.

Louis Persinger (1887-1966) was one of the greatest violinists who ever lived. In 1941, he won the first USCF Open postal chess tournament. In 1944, he played in the U.S. Chess Championship, but took last place. When he was a judge at violin contests, he would usually pull out his pocket chess set and study chess or find some other judge, such as David Oistrakh, to play chess. He was a member of the Marshall Chess Club in New York.

Phish is an American rock band whose members play chess. In one concert in 1995, the band challenged its audience to two games of chess. Phish won one game and the audience won the other.

Physicist Max Planck (1858-1947) won the 1918 Nobel Prize in Physics for his discovery of energy quanta. He played chess with Emanuel Lasker.

Sergei Prokofiev (1891-1953) was a Russian composer, pianist, and conductor. He was an avid chess player, around master strength. He beat Capablanca in a simul and was friends with Mikhail Botvinnik. He always had a chess set on his piano, ready to play anyone at chess.

Anthony Quinn (1915-2001) played chess. He played chess with Gregory Peck on the set *of The Guns of Navarone*. Quinn sometimes visited the Manhattan Chess Club in New York to play chess.

Basil Rathbone (1892-1967) played chess.

Singer Helen Reddy (1941-) played chess. She played in a celebrity chess tournament.

Actor Keanu Reeves (1964-) is a strong chess player. He learned chess as a boy. He played on his high school chess team and hustled chess for a dollar a game in Toronto. To unwind, he says he plays chess with his computer.

Julia Roberts (1967-) plays chess. In the past, she has requested a chess set be made available in her trailer when making a movie.

Actor and restaurateur Mike Romanoff (1890-1971) played chess. His chess partner at his restaurant was Humphrey Bogart.

Rock singer David Lee Roth (1954-) plays chess and once took chess lessons at the Chess Forum in New York.

Philosopher and mathematician Bertrand Russell (1872-1970) played chess and taught his son how to play.

RZA (1969-), or Robert Diggs, is an American rapper, and one of the founders of the Wu-Tang Clan. He is a huge chess fan. He is a Director of Development and chess champion of the Hip-Hop Chess Federation.

Astronomer and astrophysicist Carl Sagan (1934-1996) played chess in high school.

Actress Jill St. John (1940-) plays chess.

Senator Bernie Sanders (1941-) of Vermont plays chess. In the past, he has challenged President Joe Biden a game of chess.

Arnold Schwarzenegger (1947-) is an avid chess player. In 2002, he played a friendly games with Garry Kasparov.

Actor George C. Scott (1927-1999) played chess. He played chess with director Stanley Kubrick during breaks on the set of Dr. Strangelove. He played chess with Marlon Brando on the set of 'The Formula.'

Actor Steven Seagal (1952-) plays chess. While visiting the Republic of Kalmykia, he played chess with FIDE president Kirsan Ilyumzhinov.

David O. Selznick (1902-1965) played chess.

Bandleader Artie Shaw (1910-2004) played chess. He played a game against grandmaster Larry Evans aboard a cruise ship where Evans was giving chess lessons. Artie Shaw hired a master to teach his wife, Ava Gardner, how to play chess.

Actress Jessica Simpson (1980-) plays chess. He would usually drop by Roger Vadim's house and they would play chess.

Frank Sinatra (1915-1998) played chess. There is a picture of him playing former 6-time U.S. chess champion, Walter Browne. There is another picture of him sitting at the chess board with former world chess champion Anatoly Karpov.

Actor Will Smith (1968-) plays chess. His father taught him how to play at age 7. Will smith endorsed the Millionaire Chess Tournament held in Las Vegas, in early October. He took some chess lessons from Chicago's National Master Marvin Dandridge.

Business magnate George Soros (1930-) plays chess. He learned chess from his father in 1944 in Hungary while hiding from the Gestapo. In 2012, he invited Magnus Carlsen to his summer house in the Hamptons and they played chess.

Actor Kevin Spacey (1959-) plays chess.

Actress arbara Stanwyck (1907-1990) played chess. She played Frank Capra while on the set of Meet John Doe in 1941.

Drummer and ex-Beatle Ringo Starr (1940-) plays chess. When the other Beatles were rehearsing, Ringo played chess with one of the recording engineers. He had a chess set, designed by Klaus Voorman, made of gold and silver, modeled on his hands, using different types of hand shapes for the various figures.

Radio shock jock Howard Stern (1954-) plays chess. He is a card-carrying member of the Marshall Chess Club. He is probably the only celebrity I have played online several years ago. He took chess lessons from FIDE master Dan Heisman. Stern plays with an anonymous handle on the Internet Chess Club. Don Imus, another radio personality, also plays chess.

English musician Sting (Gordon Matthew Sumner, born Oct 2, 1951) plays chess. In 200, he invited Garry Kasparov to play simultaneously against him and his band in New York City. Kasparov won all 5 games easily.

Actor Kiefer Sutherland (1966-) plays chess. He is a big fan of the game of chess. There is a photo of him playing chess at a pub in London, taken in 2007. He plays chess with his daughter.

Physicist Dr. Edward Teller (1908-2003) was an avid chess player. He learned chess from his father when he was six. He often hiked and played chess with friends without a board. Teller played chess with Heisenberg, but could not beat him at chess. During lunch breaks or after work, he played chess with other physicists at Lawrence Livermore Labs.

Alan Turing (1912-1954) played chess, though not very well. He was the first person to publish a chess program for computers.

Mike Tyson, world heavyweight champion from 1987 to 1990, likes to play chess. He played a game of chess with Arnold Schwarzenegger, which was reported by ChessBase News on April 23, 2021. (source: A heavyweight chess match: Arnold Schwarzenegger vs Mike Tyson | ChessBase)

John Urschel, former NFL football player with the Baltimore Ravens, plays chess. He plays chess on Chess.com. He wants to become a chess master. (source; *Huffpost Sports*, Feb 9, 2018)

French screenwriter, film director and producer Roger Vadim (1928-2000) played chess. He often played chess with ex-wife Jane Fonda and producer David O. Selznick.

Actor Jesse Vint plays chess and won the World Celebrity Chess Championship in 1988, held at the Century Plaza in Los Angeles. He has played chess against Anatoly Karpov.

Actor Burt Ward (1945-) plays chess. He was the strongest member of his high school's chess team. He played chess in college.

Actor John Wayne (1907-1979) played chess well. He had a chess board permanently set up on his 136-foot boat, The Wild Goose. When he too friends for boat rides, he played chess.

Film director Billy Wilder (1906-2002) played chess. Wilder grew up in Vienna and remembers, as a boy, watching Trotsky play chess in the Café Central.

Actor Guy Williams (1924-1989) played chess. He played chess between takes during Lost in Space. Living in New York, he used to go to Central Park to play chess and visited the Manhattan Chess Club. A biography says that he competed in chess tournaments.

Veteran actor William Windom (1923-2012) was an enthusiastic chess player. He was a life member of the United States Chess Federation (USCF) and rated 1540, last playing in 1991. He was profiled twice in 'Chess Life' magazine. He used to play and beat John Wayne.

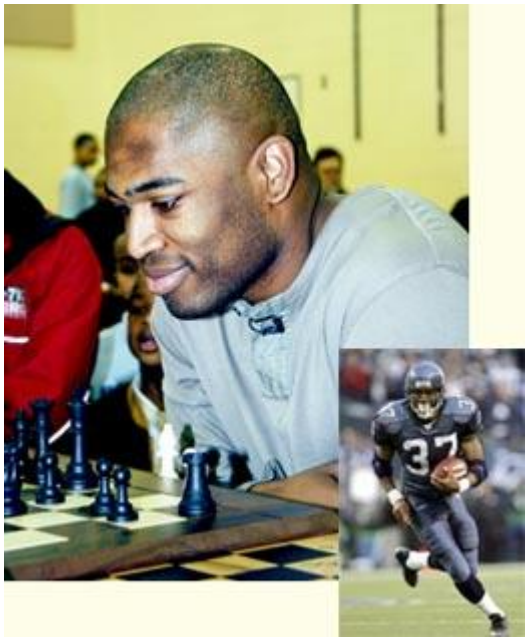
Abbott and Costello

Kareem Abdul-Jabbar

Claude Akins playing chess with William Windom

Alan Alda playing chess with Mike Farrell

Alan Alda



Shaun Alexander

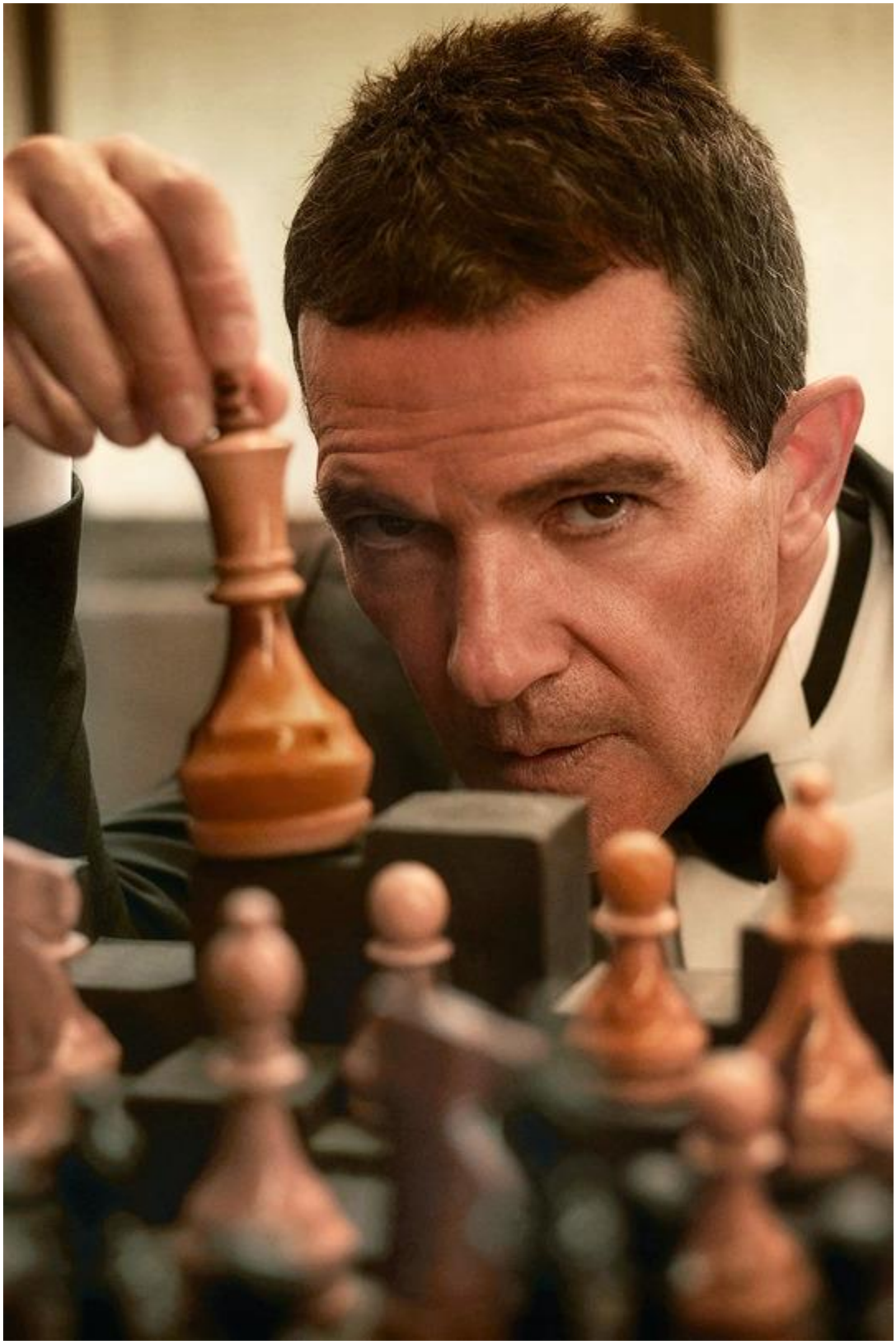
Shaun Alexander

Woody Allen

June Allyson playing chess with Van Johnson, 1948

Yasser Arafat

Antonio Banderas and Liam Neeson



Antonio Banderas

Boris Becker and Magnus Carlsen

Boris Becker playing British GM Nigel Short

Becker playing Fabiano Caruana

Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin playing chess with Zbigniew Brzezinski

Dan Blocker playing chess with Michael Landon as Lorne Greene looks on

Dan Blocker at home playing chess

Humphrey Bogart playing chess with Paul Heinreid as Claude Rains looks on

Humphrey Bogart playing Charles Boyer, 1945

Bogart in the movie *Casablanca*

Humphrey Bogart playing chess with Karl Silvers

Photo by San Francisco Chronicle

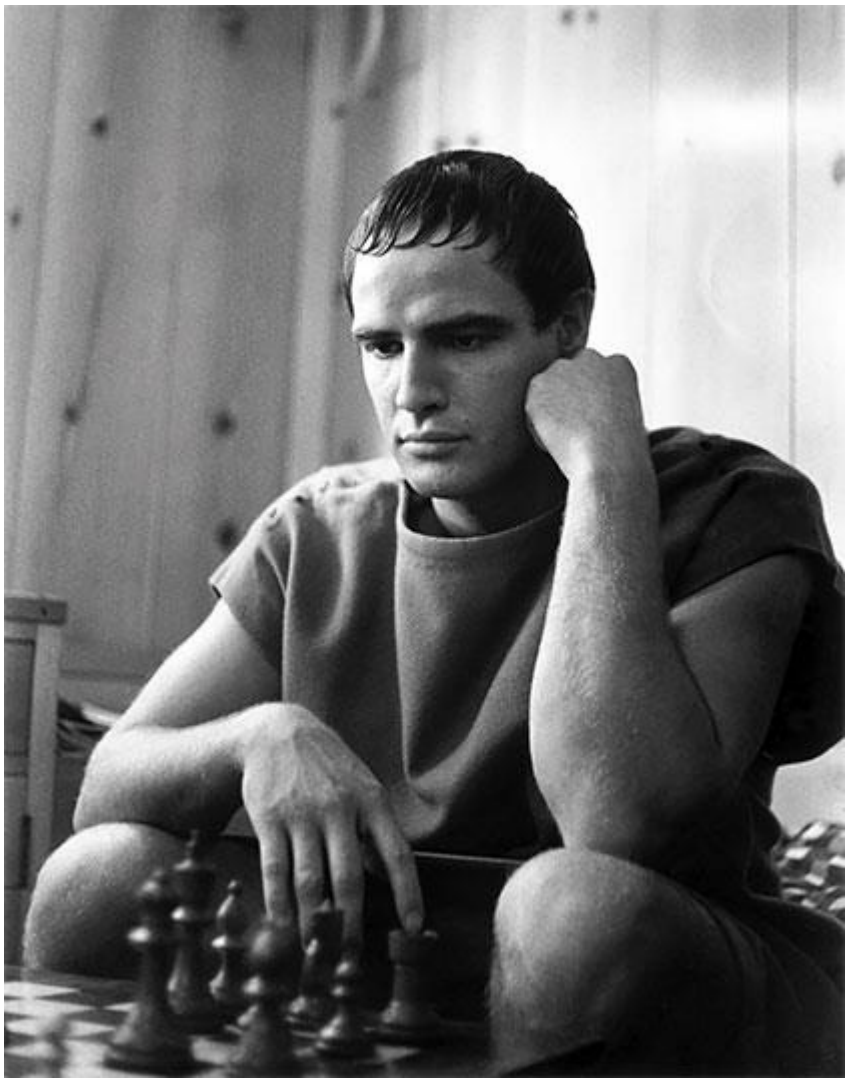
"Beat the Devil"—at chess! George Koltanowski is quoted to effect he will take on tough guy Humphrey Bogart (right) any day—at chess. He trounced Bogart two years ago in 45 minutes—and blindfold! He has accepted a challenge for a return engagement from the star of "Beat the Devil" who wired from Rome: "I have run up against some Italian experts and learned a lot."

David Bowie playing chess with Catherine Deneuve in 1983

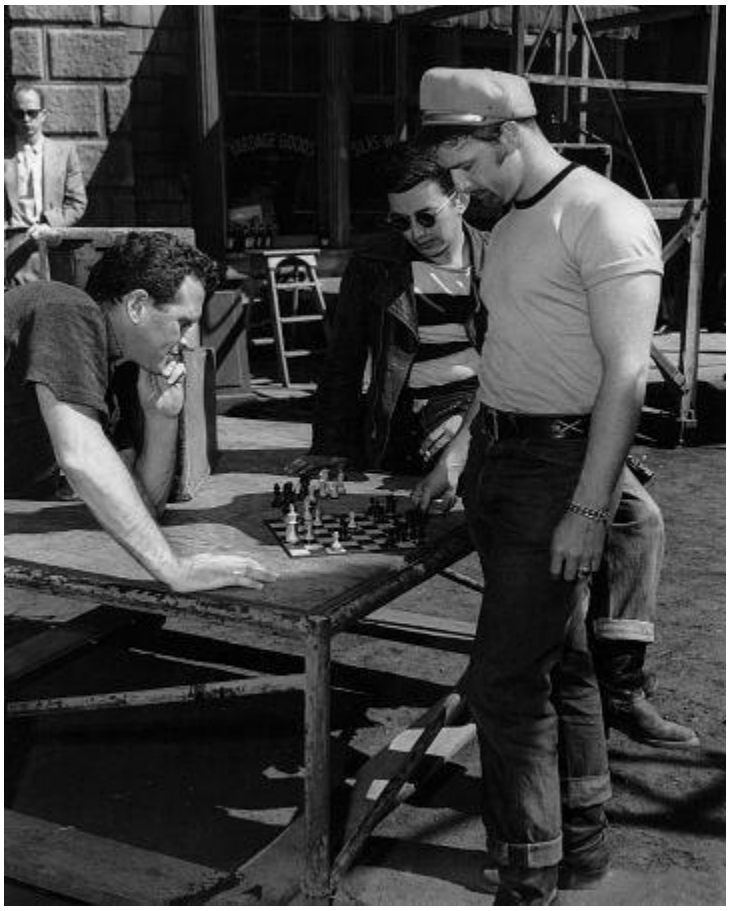
Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall

Sprinter Usain Bolt

Marlon Brando



Marlon Brando



Brando playing chess between movie shots in 1953

Sir Richard Branson

Sir Richard Branson

В минуты отдыха. Л.И. Брежнев, А.А. Гречко, П.К. Кошевой и И.И. Якубовский.
Лето 1968 г.

Leonid Breshnev

Jim Brown

James Caan

Nicholas Cage

Sid Caesar

James Cagney playing chess with Alan Hale, 1941

Jimmy Carter

Rosalynn Carter playing chess with Amy Carter

Fidel Castro playing Bobby Fischer

Fidel Castro

Wilt Chamberlain

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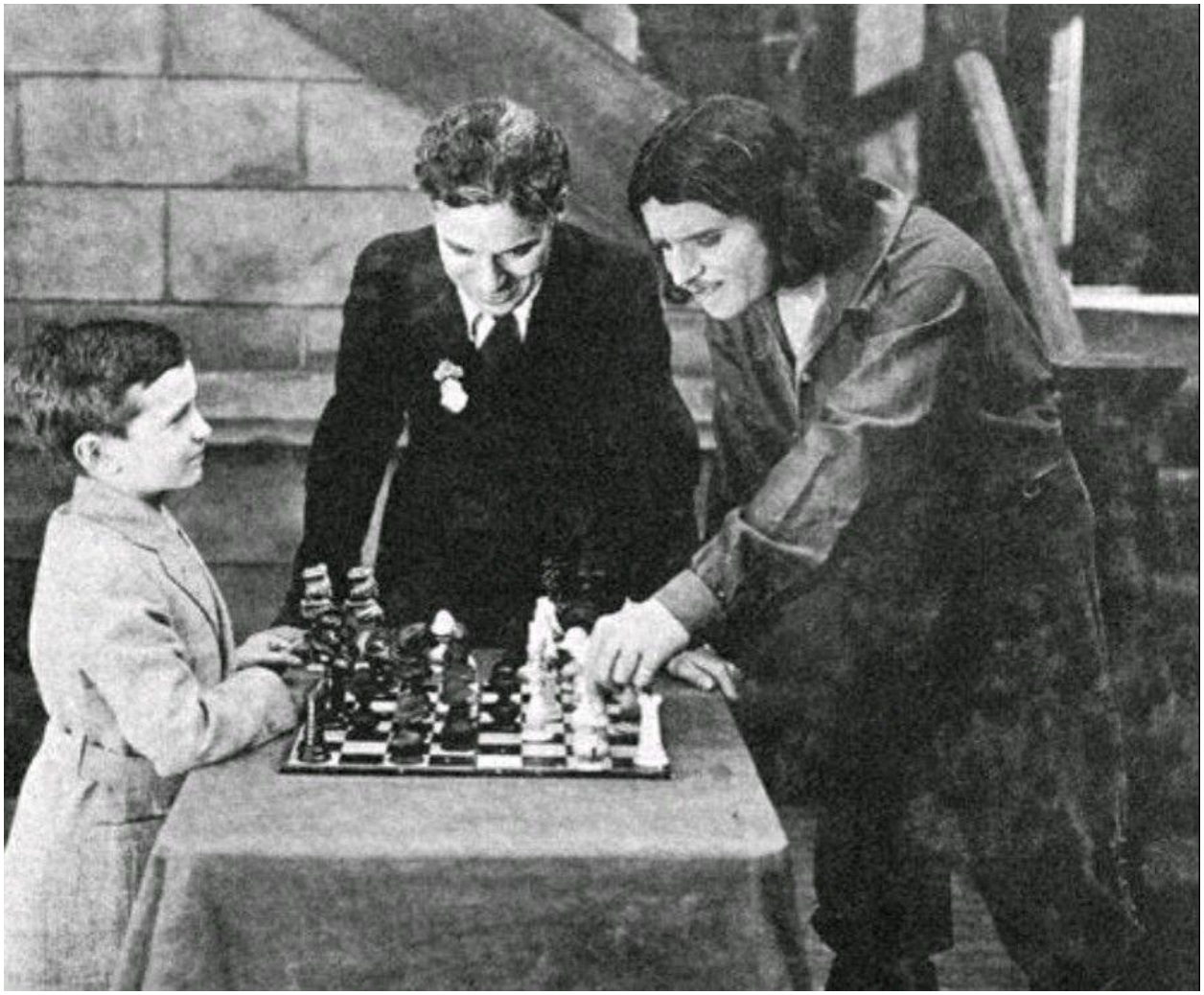
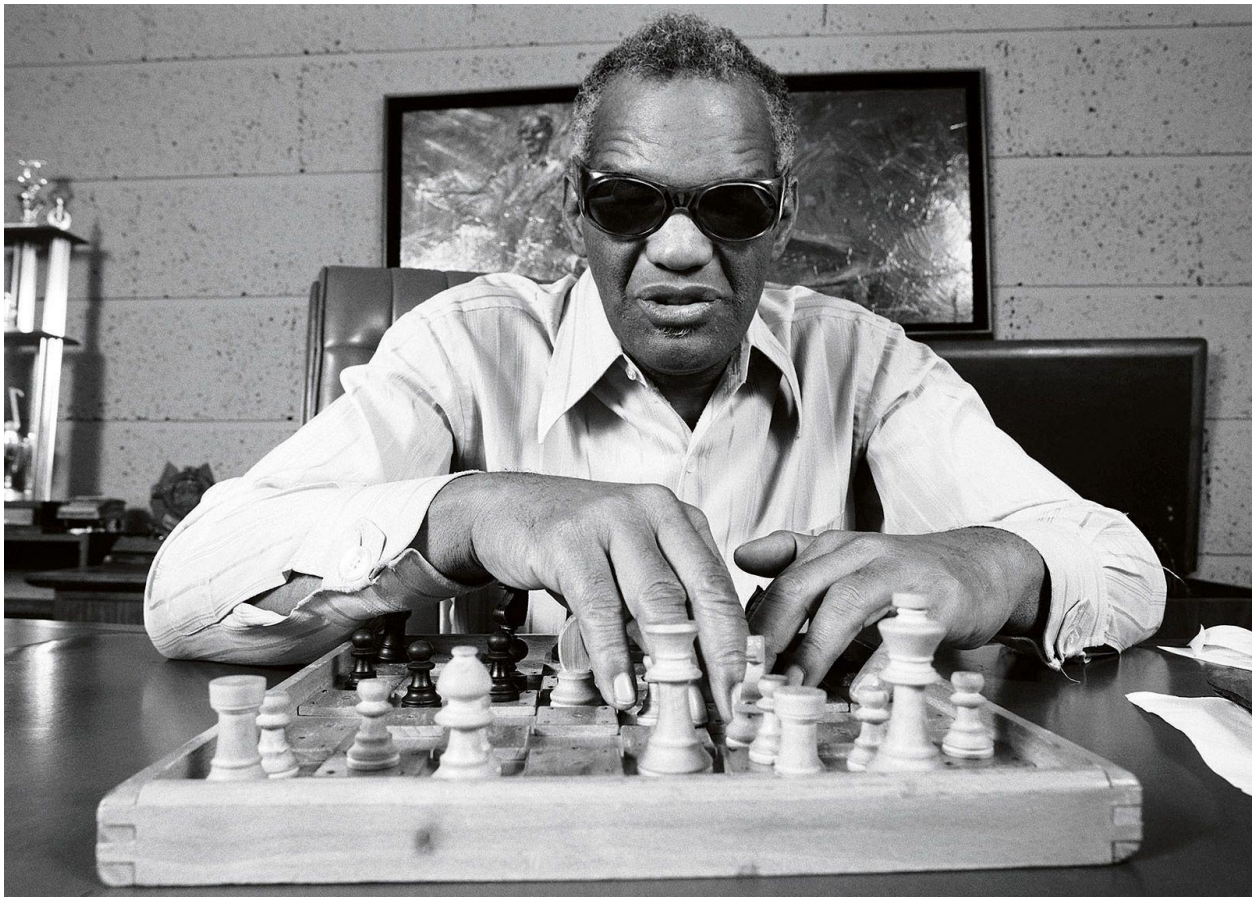
Astronaut Dr. Gregory Chamitoff playing chess in space.



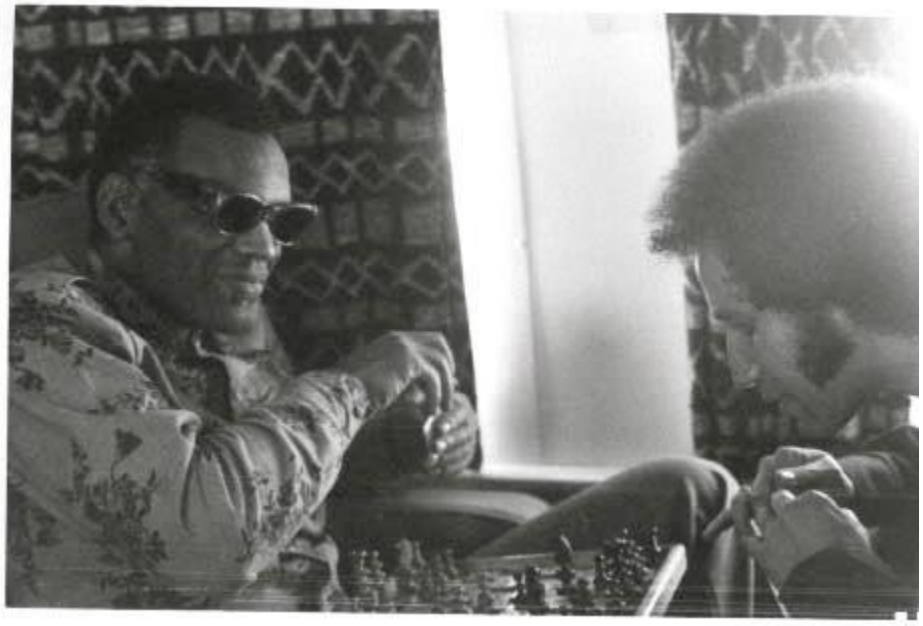
Sammy Reshevsky playing Douglas Fairbanks and Charlie Chaplin looks on

Reshevsky playing chess with Charlie Chaplin



Ray Charles

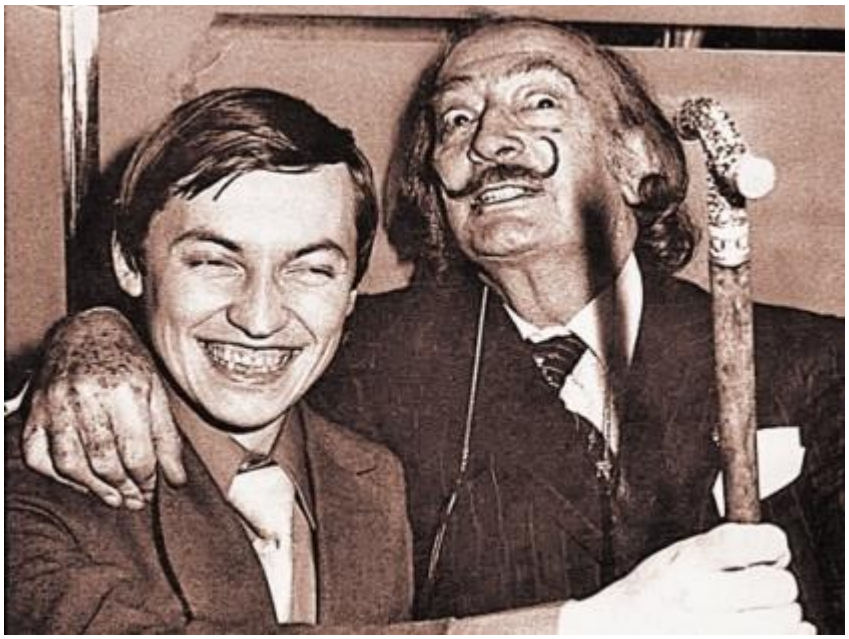
Ray Charles



Ray Charles and Tony Horowitz

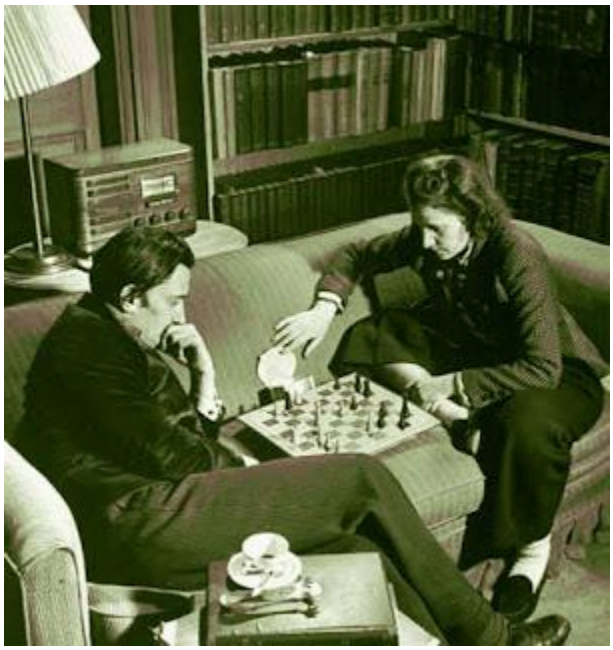
Charlie’s Angels – Jacklyn Smith, Kate Jackson, Farrah Fawcett

Daniel Craig



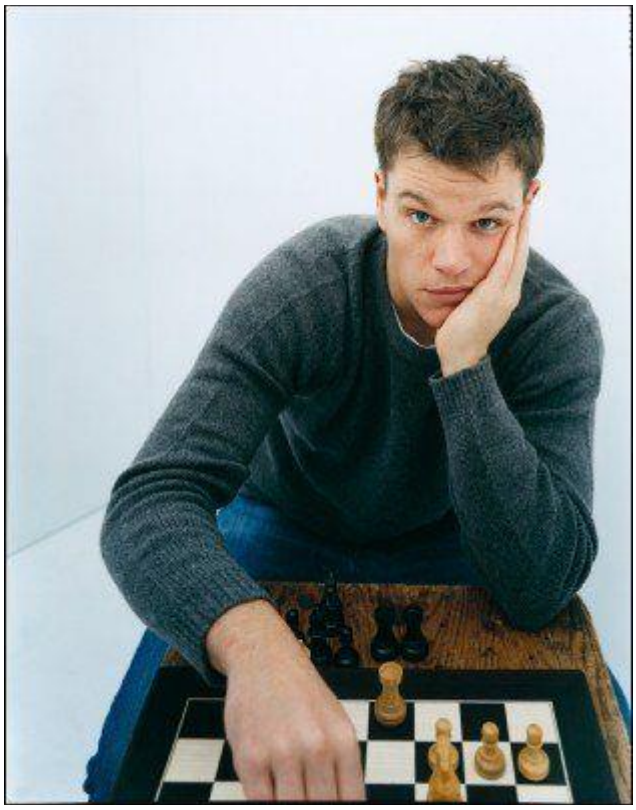
Salvador Dali and Anatoly Karpov

Salvador Dali



Salvador Dali at home

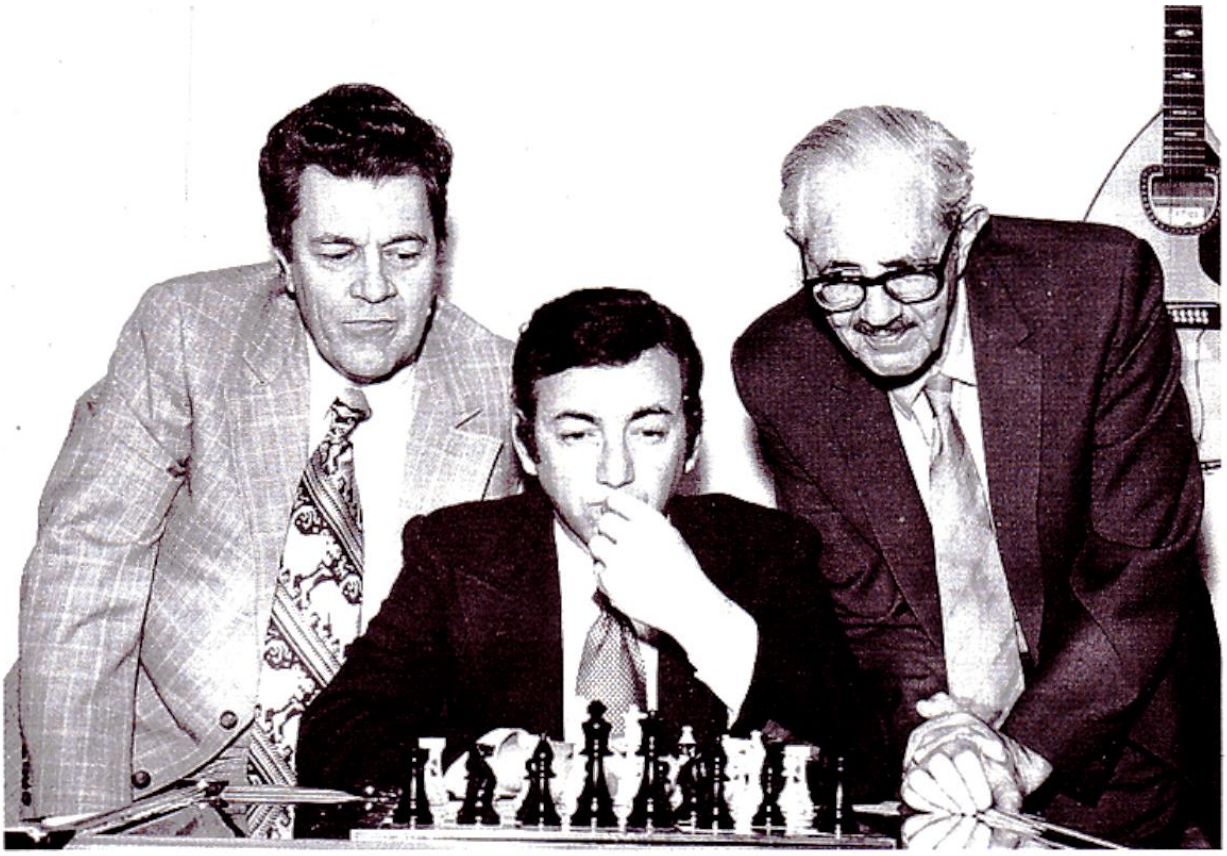
Timothy Dalton



Matt Damon

Ted Danson

Bobby Darin playing chess with Jose Ferrer

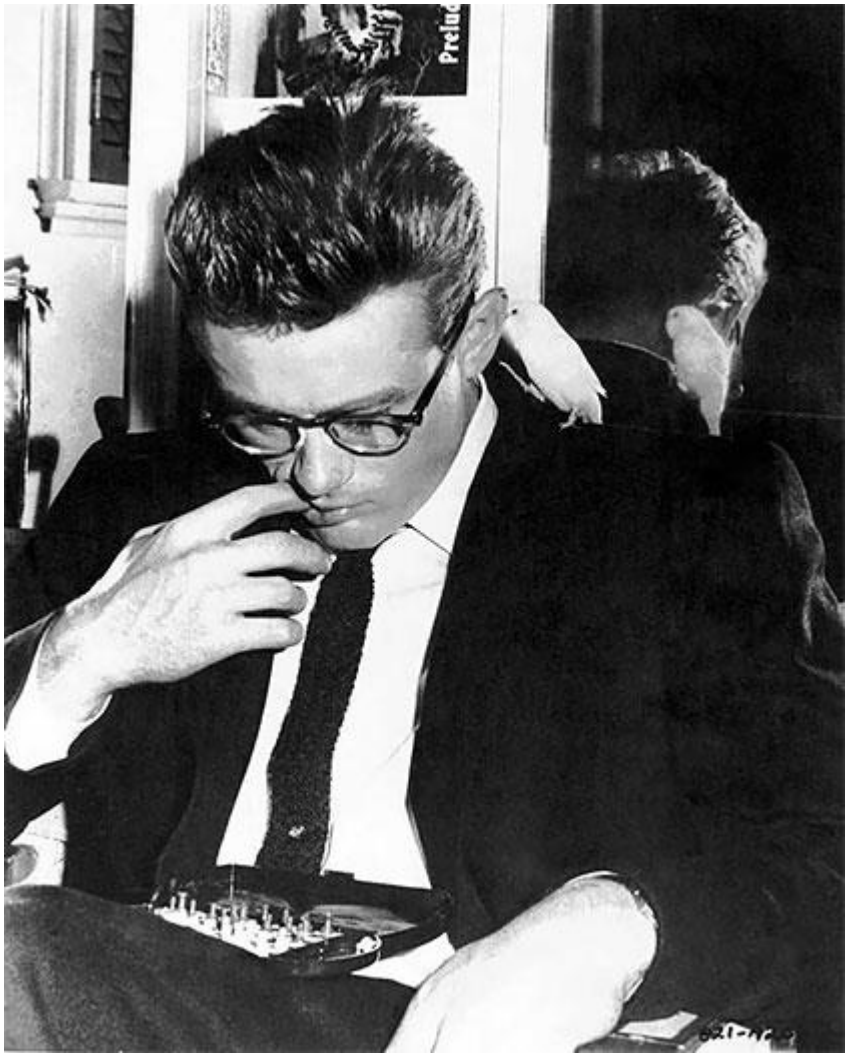


Between rehearsals for The Bobby Darin Show, its star relaxes at the chessboard. The kibitzers are Grandmaster Isaac Kashdan (right), who will direct the First Annual Bobby Darin International Chess Classic, and Ed Edmondson.

Bobby Darin playing chess with Sandra Dee

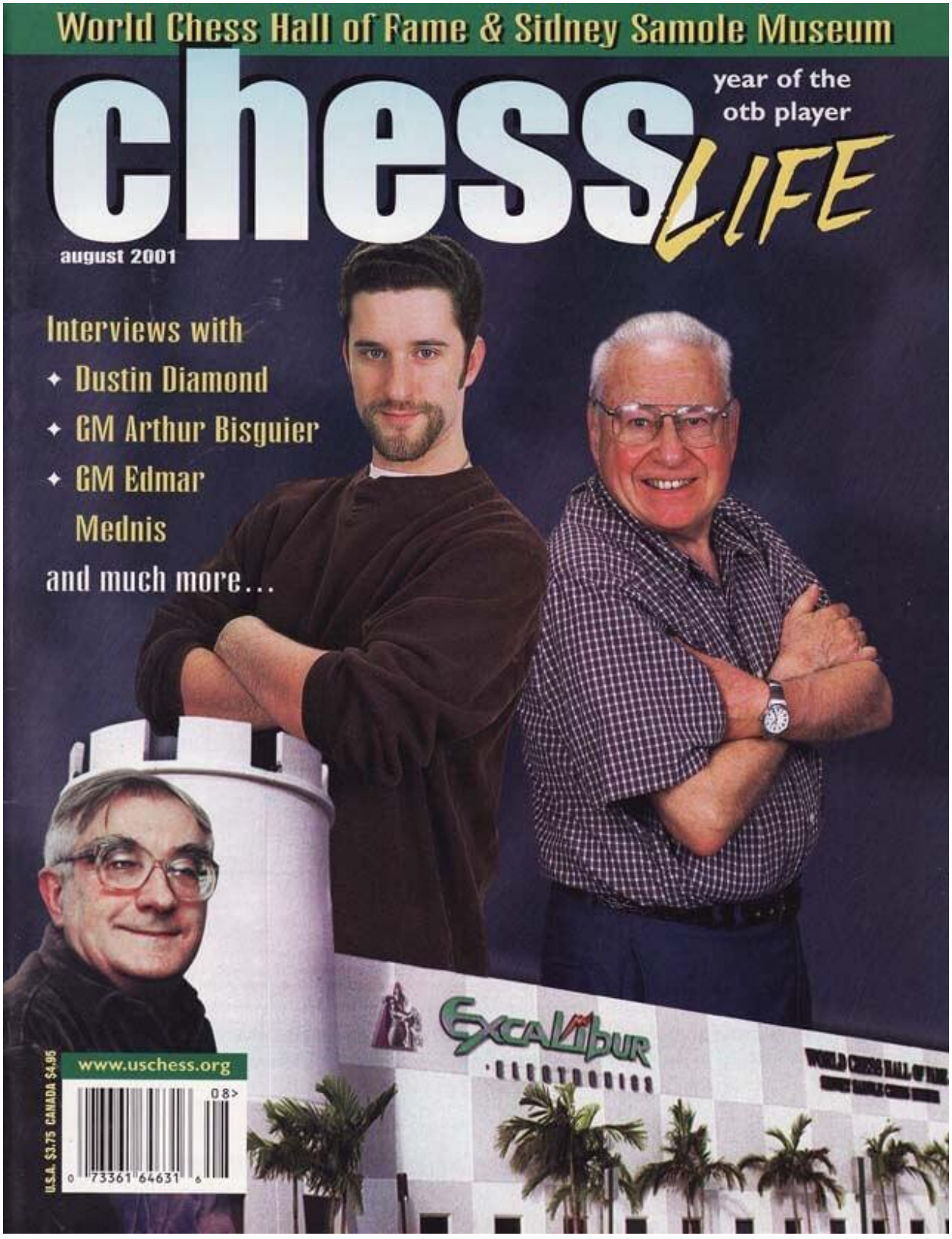
Henry Darrow

Olivia de Havilland



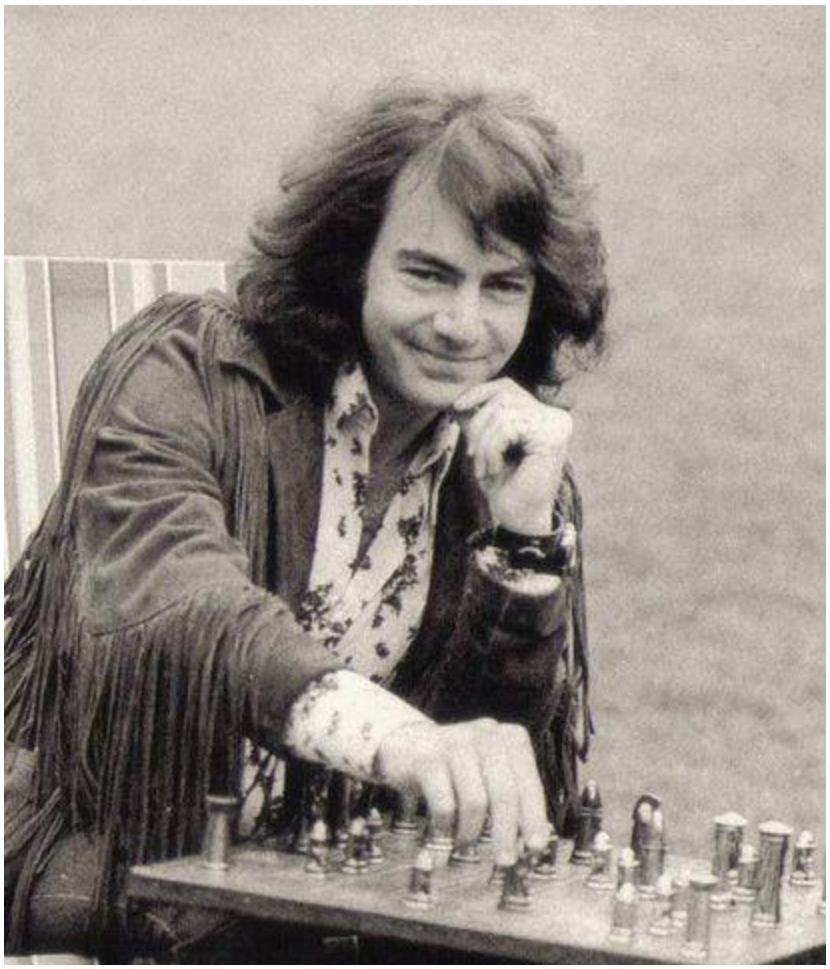
James Dean

Danny DeVito and Susan Polgar



Dustin Diamond on the cover of *Chess Life* with Arthur Biguier

Neil Diamond, 1972



Neil Diamond

Princess Diana

Leonardo DeCaprio

Marlene Dietrich playing chess with John Wayne, 1943

Marlene Dietrich watching a chess game

Novak Djokovic playing chess with Boris Becker

Tony Dow and Jerry Mathers

,,,

Tony Dow and Jerry Mathers

Marcel Duchamp

Marcel Duchamp

Bob Dylan

Bob Dylan

Queen Elizabeth II

Erik Estrada playing chess with William Windom

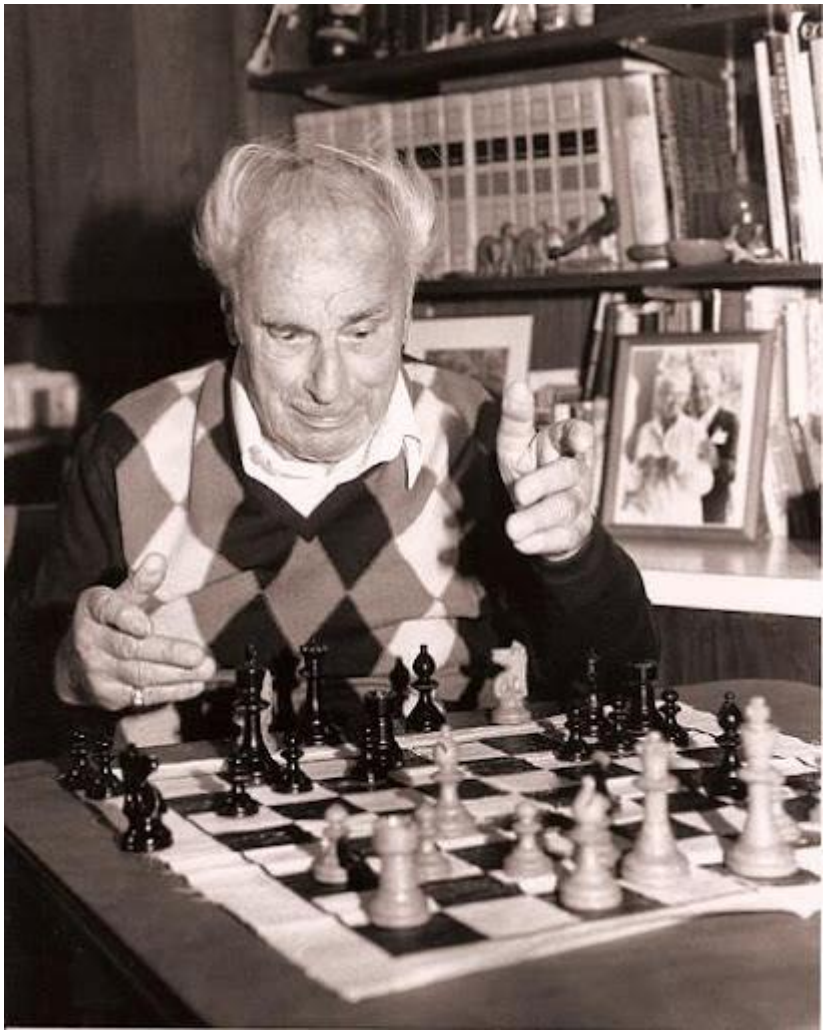
Erik Estrada

Erik Estrada and Anatoly Karpov

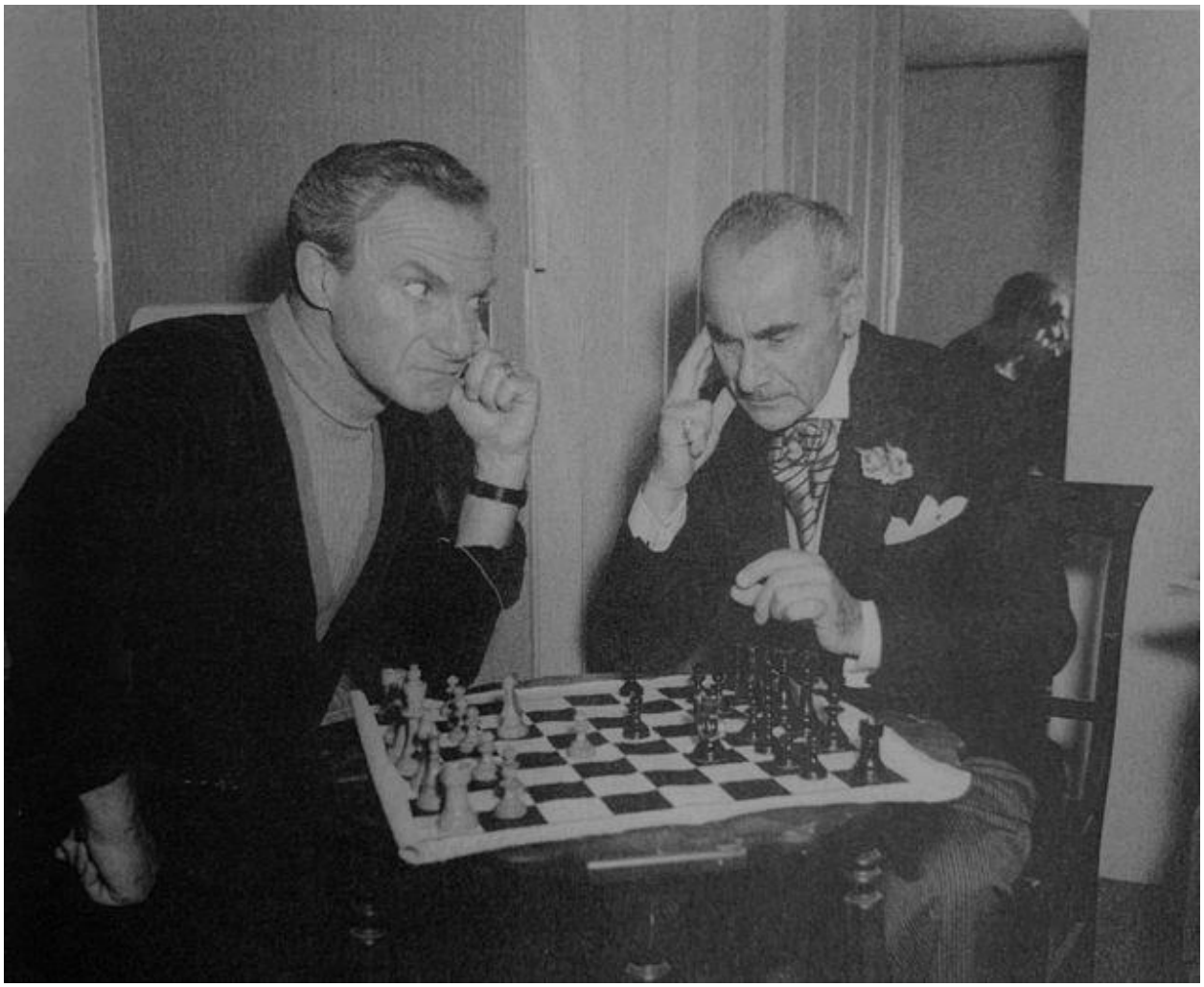
Morgan Fairchild

Peter Falk and Yasser Sierawan

Friz Feld playing chess with Dee Hartford.



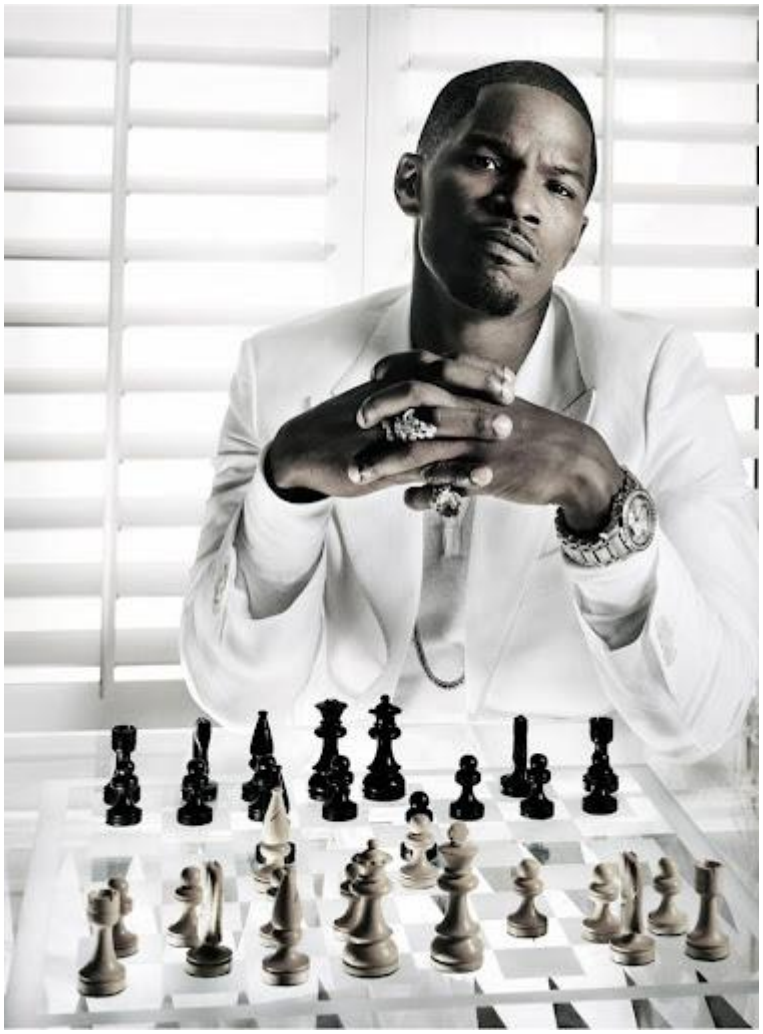
Friz Feld



Fritz Feld playing chess with Jonathan Harris

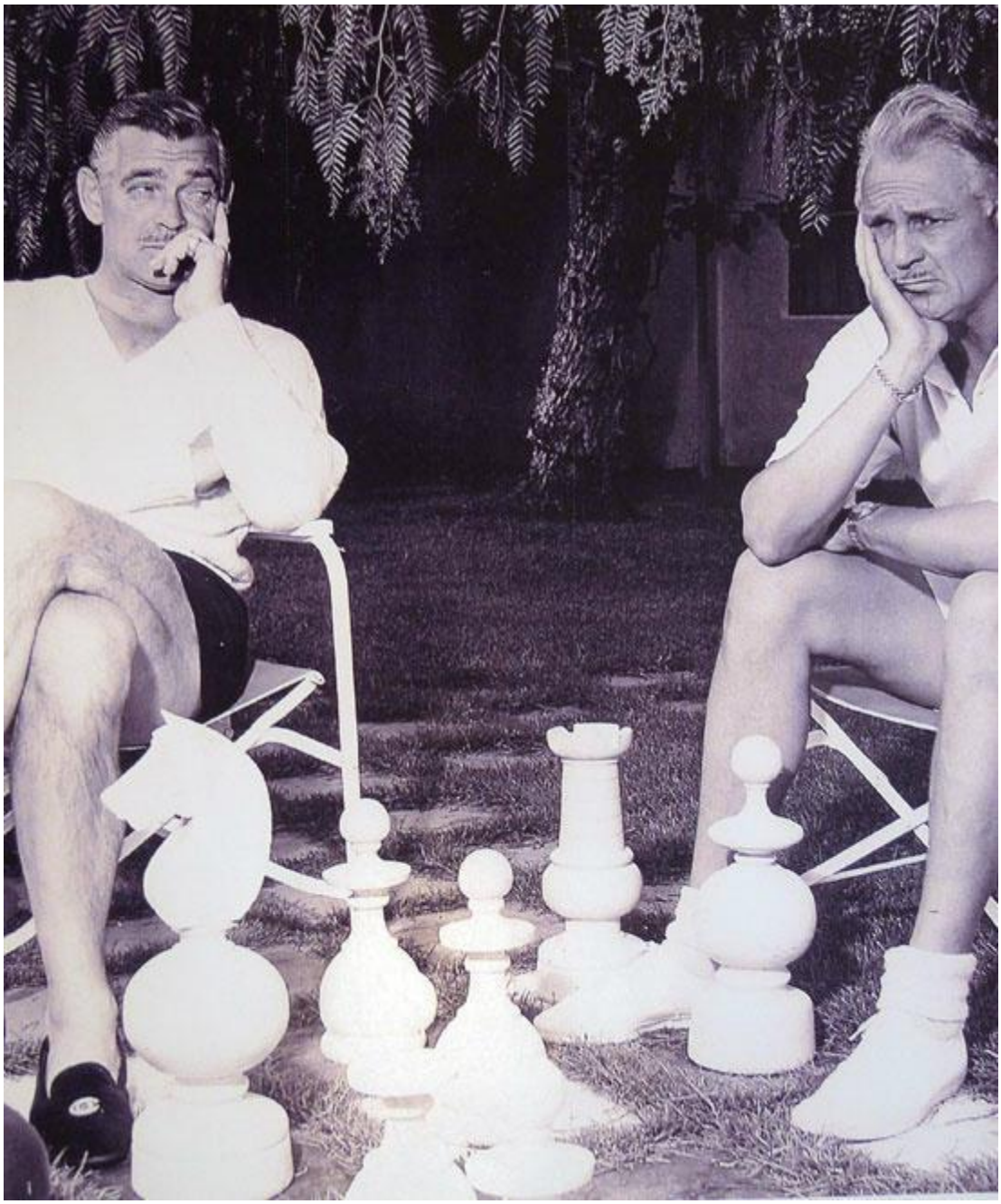
Errol Flynn playing chess with Olivia de Havilland

Jamie Foxx



Jamie Foxx

Clark Gable and Debra Kerr



Clark Gable and Charlie Farrell

Clark Gable

Zsa Zsa Gabor

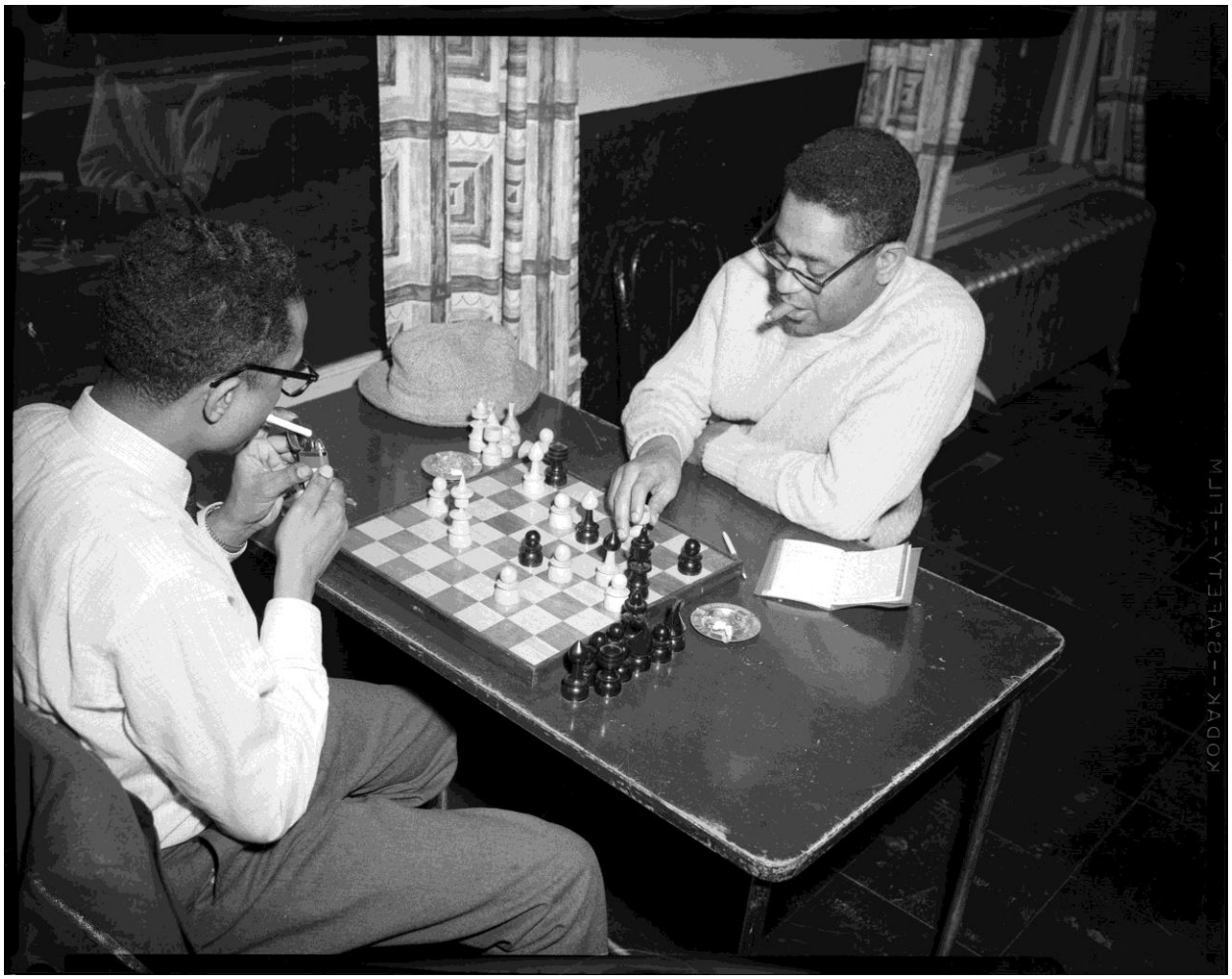
Libyan Muammar Gaddafi playing chess with the FIDE President

Ava Gardner playing chess with Roland Culver, 1947

Ava Gardner

Judy Garland, 1938

Bill Gates losing to Magnus Carlsen on TV



Dizzy Gillespie playing chess with Harold Keith

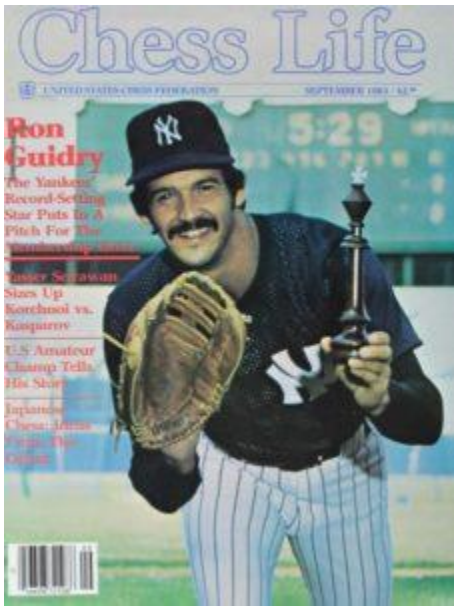
Dizzy Gillespie

Cuba Gooding Jr.

Billy Graham

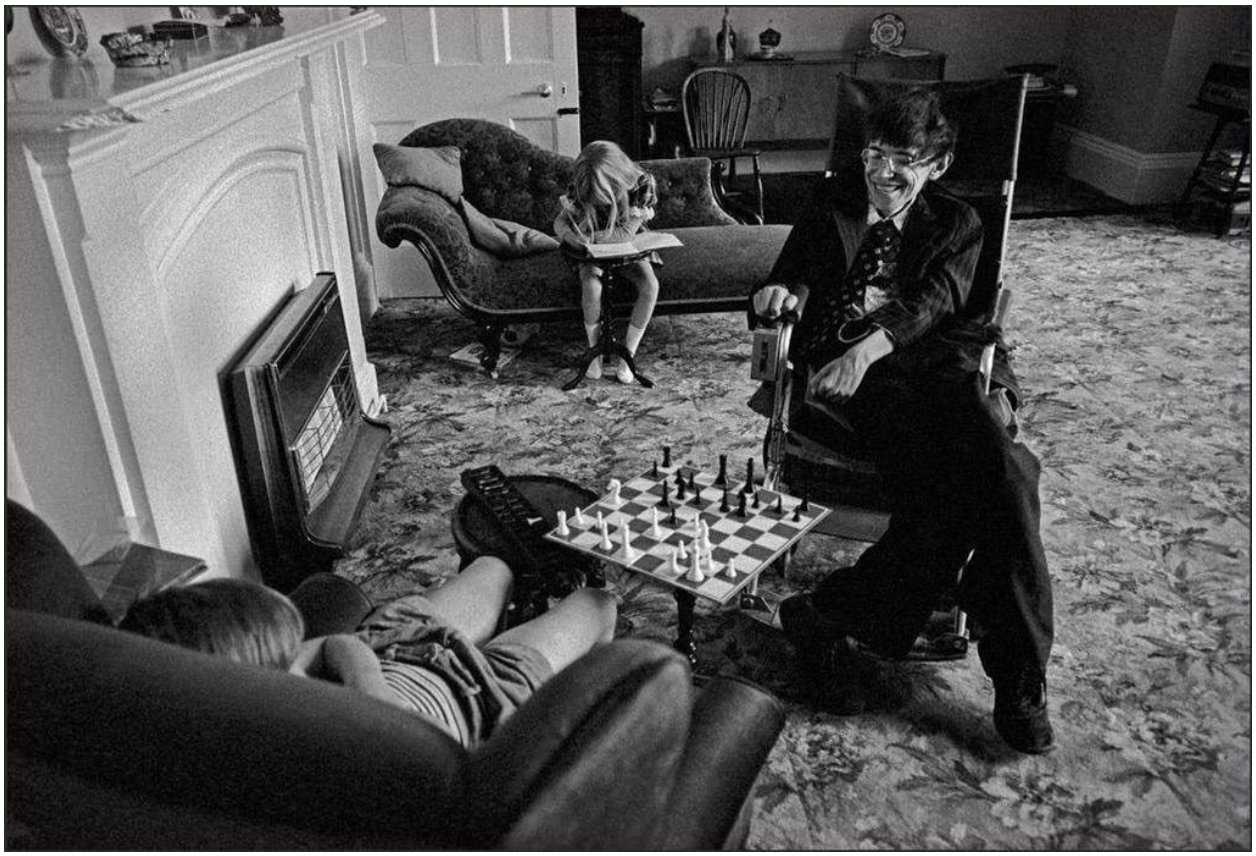
Cary Grant

Che Guevara



Ron Guidry

Woody Harrelson



Stephen Hawking

Stephen Hawking playing his son, 1977

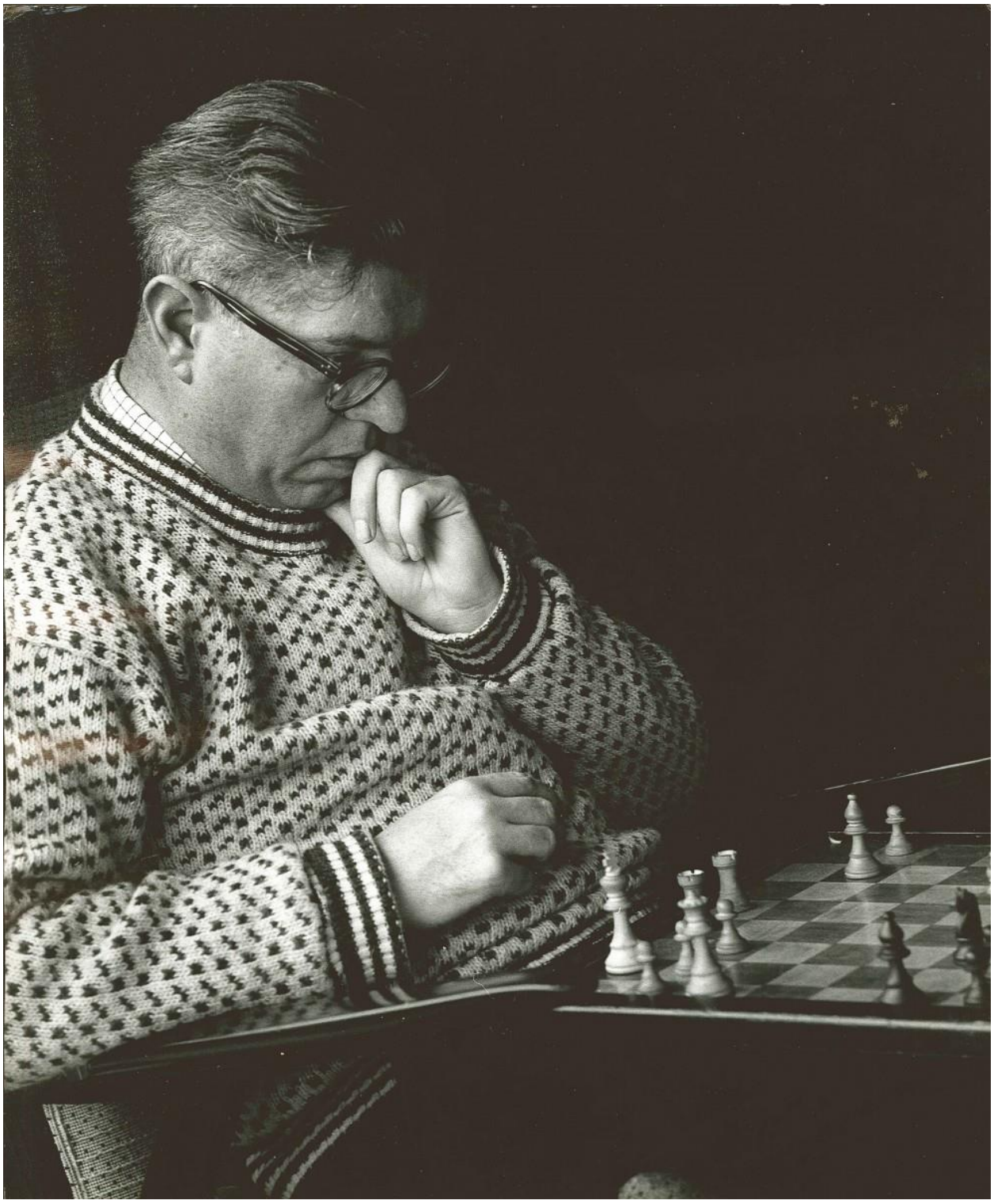
Sterling Hayden playing chess with Kola Kwariani as Stanly Kubrick looks on

Anthony Hopkins

Anthony Hopkins with Emilio Estevez

Ronald and Leslie Howard playing chess

Ron Howard



Fred Hoyle

Don Imus at home

Dr. Michio Kaku

Boris Karloff playing chess with Bela Lugosi, 1834

John F. Kennedy, Jr.

Henry Kissinger

Henry Kissinger and Magnus Carlsen

Eartha Kitt playing chess with her husband

Kevin Kline

Heavyweight champion Vitaly Klitschko playing chess with Vladimir Kramnik

Heith Ledger

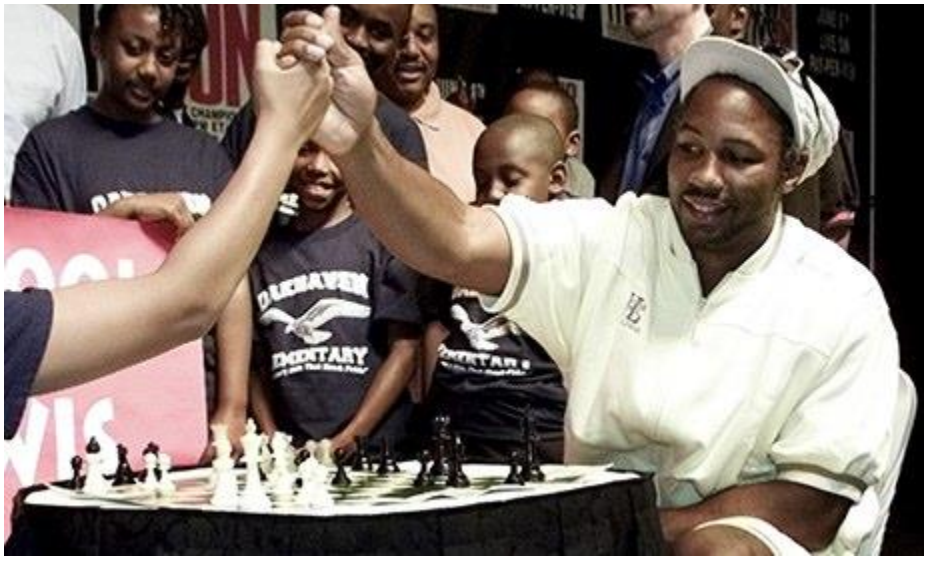
Christopher Lee and Vincent Price pretending to play chess, 1969

Vivien Leigh playing chess with Lawrence Olivier

John Lennon

John Lennon playing chess with Yoko Ono

Lennox Lewis



Lennox Lewis

Lennox Lewis and Susan Polgar

Sophia Loren

Myrna Loy playing chess with Bill Powell

Madonna

Tobey Maguire

Dean Martin and John Wayne, 1958

Dean Martin, 1958

Jerry Mathers

Patrick McGoohan playing chess with Sean Connery, 1957

Steve McQueen in The Thomas Crown Affair (1968)

Ray Milland, Nancy Davis, and John Hodiak

Yves Montand playing chess with Simode Signoret in 1954

Willie Nelson

Willie Nelson

Paul Newman playing chess with Sylva Koscina

Paul Newman and George C. Scott

Paul Newman and Robert Wagner, 1983

Leonard Nimoy

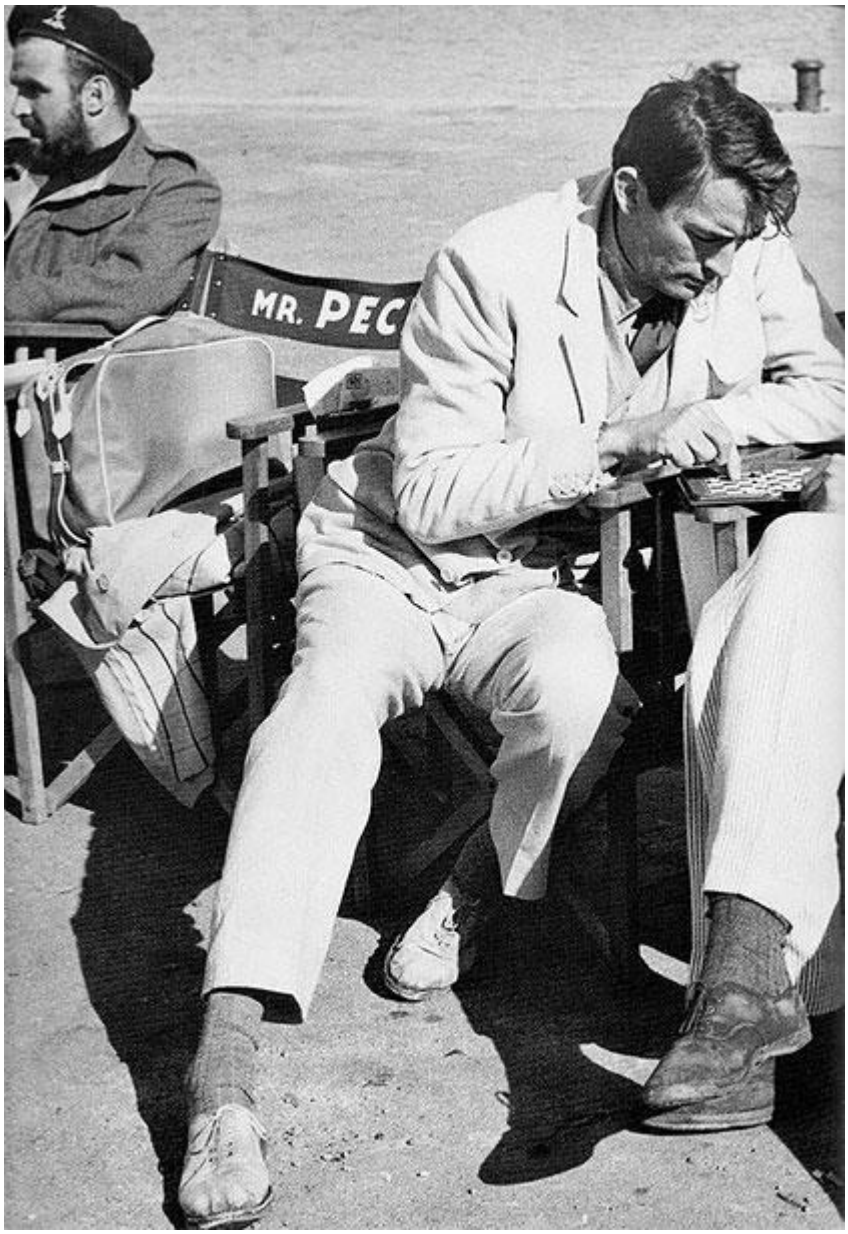
Barack Obama

Yoko Ono

Al Pacino

Al Pachino

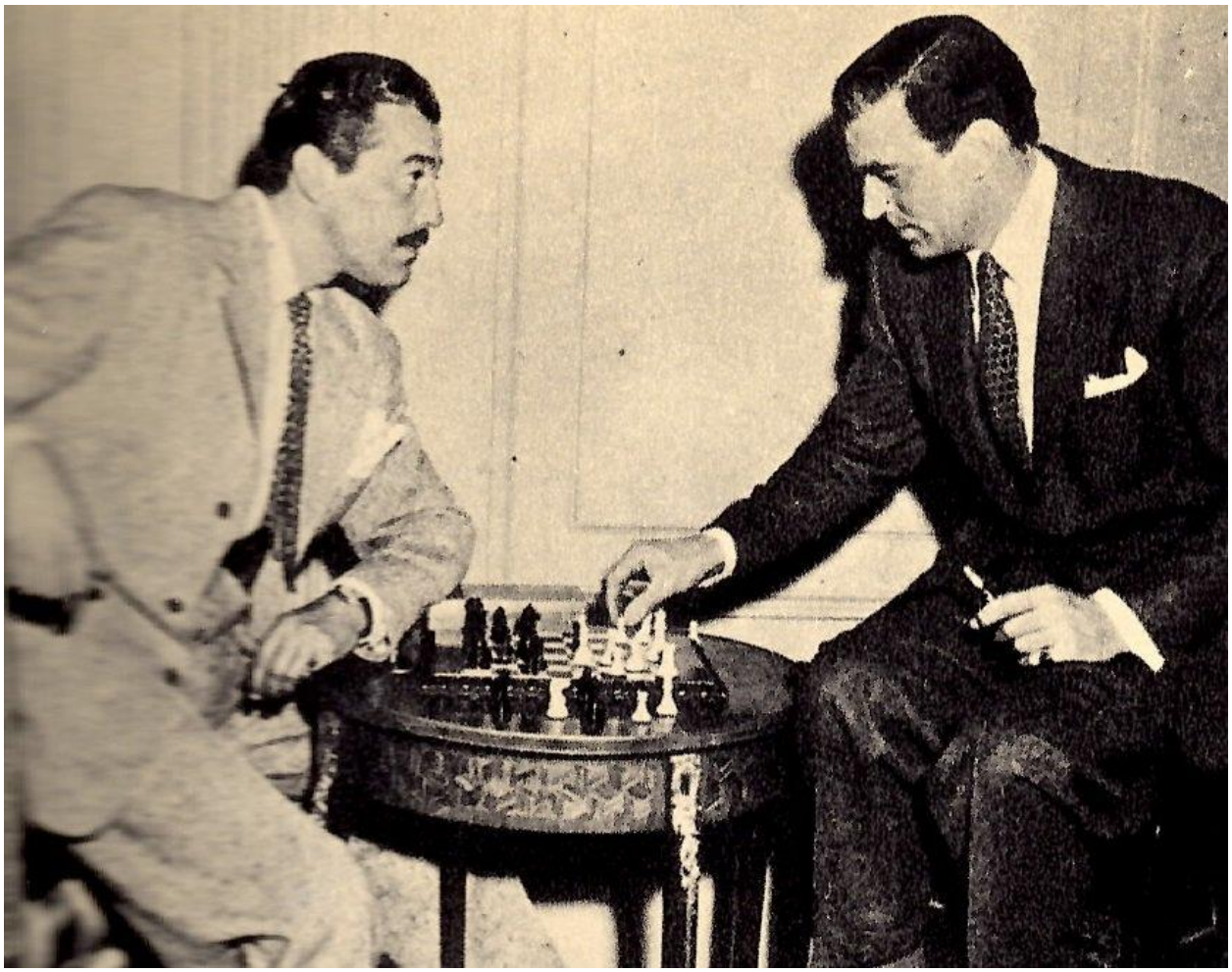
Gregory Peck, 1961



Gregory Peck, 1961

Gregory Peck playing chess with Polly Bergen

Phish



Walter Pidgeon playing chess with Cesar Romero

William Powell

Sergei Prokofiev

Sergei Prokofiev playing chess with David Oistrakh

Anthony Quinn

Anthony Quinn

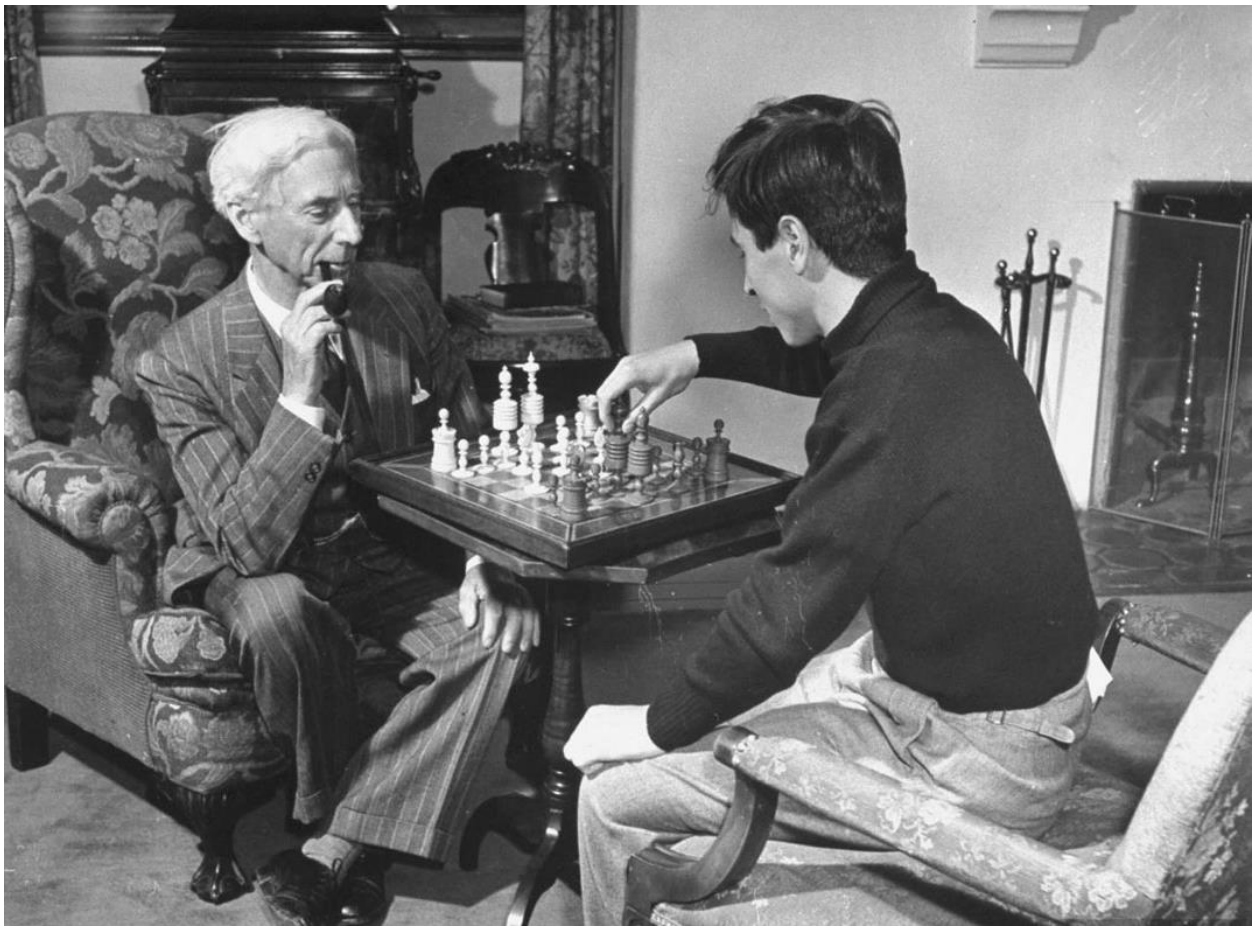
WARMING UP—Basil Rathbone, left, moves while Edward Kovacs, center, and Herman Steiner, Times chess editor, study. The latter two will play for British Relief.

Times photo

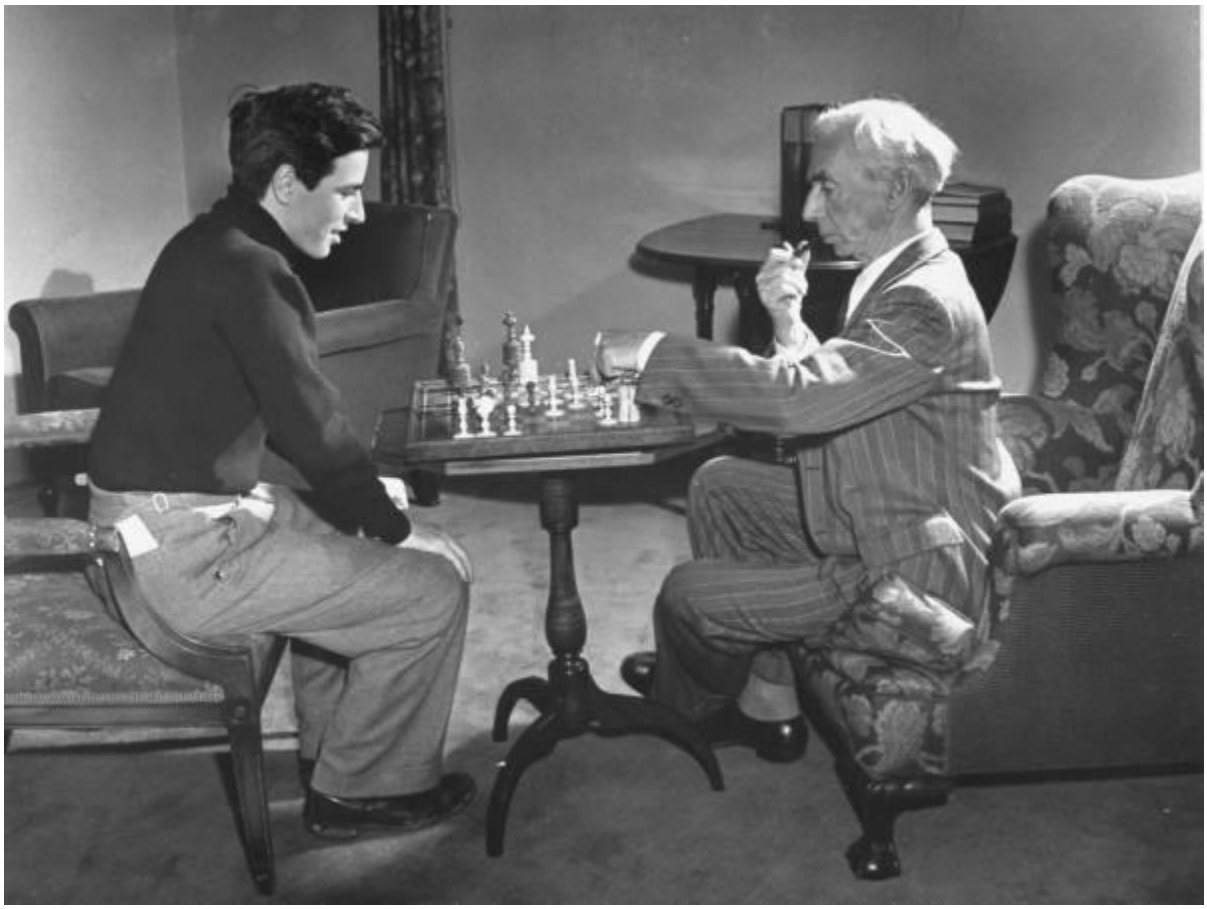
Keenu Reeves

Guy Ritchie

Julia Roberts



Bertrand Russell

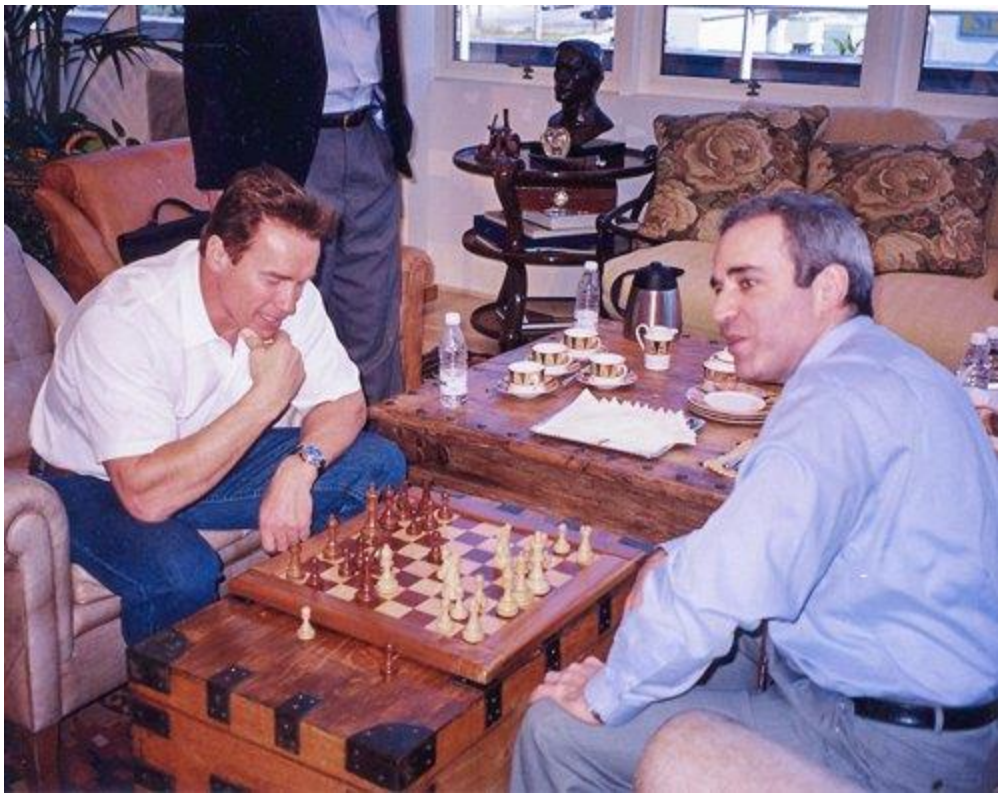


Bertrand Russell

RZA

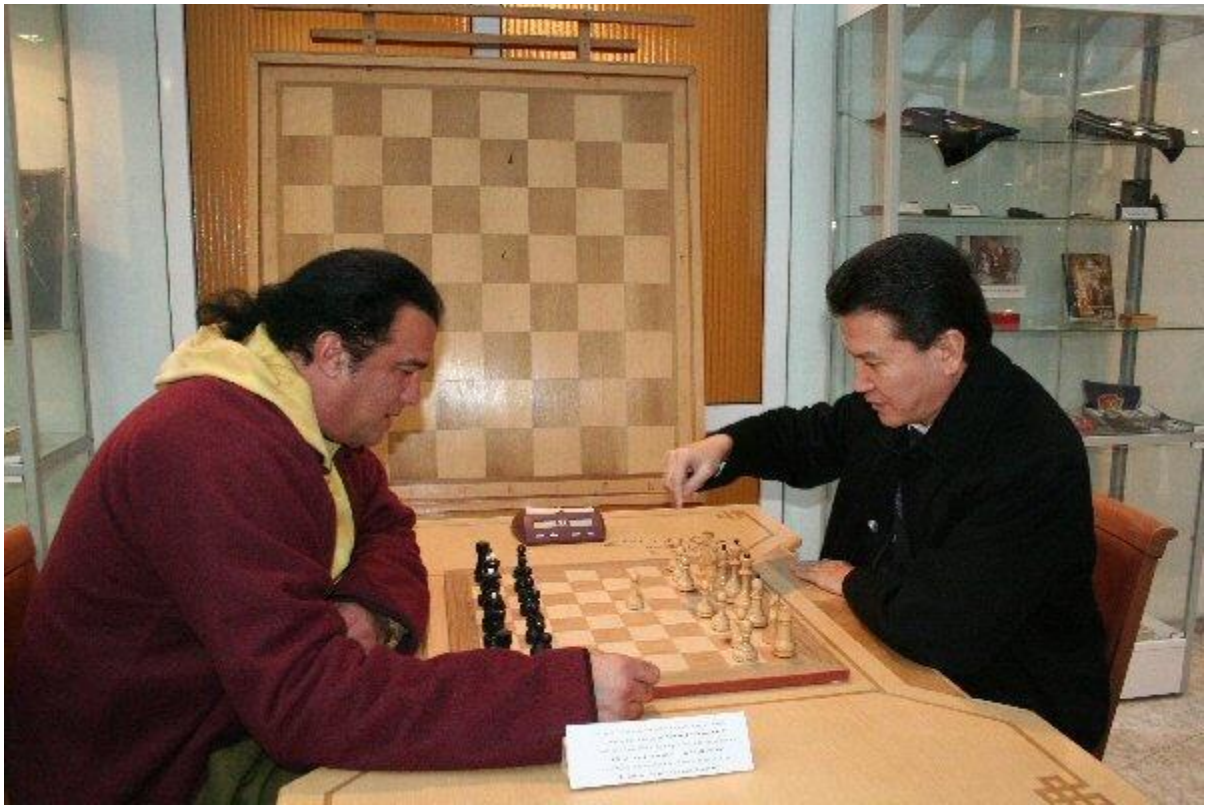
Bernie Sanders

Arnold Schwarzenegger

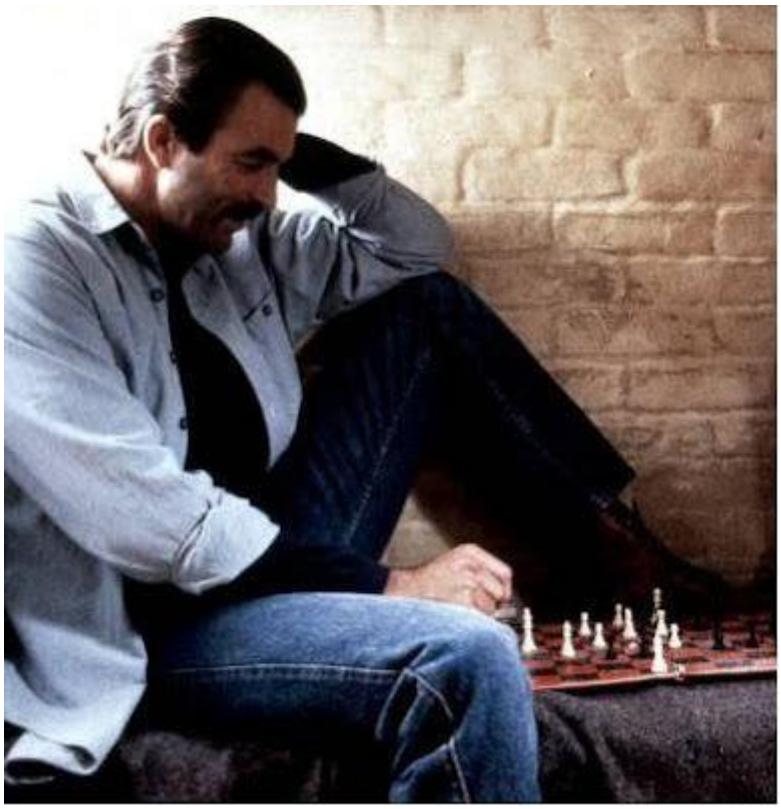


Arnold Schwarzenegger and Garry Kasparov

George C. Scott and Stanley Kubrick



Steven Seagall playing chess with former FIDE President Kirsan Ilyumzhinov



Tom Selleck chess

LUST
JUST JARED

Booke Shields

Brooke Shields

Frank Sinatra

Frank Sinatra and Walter Browne

Will Smith

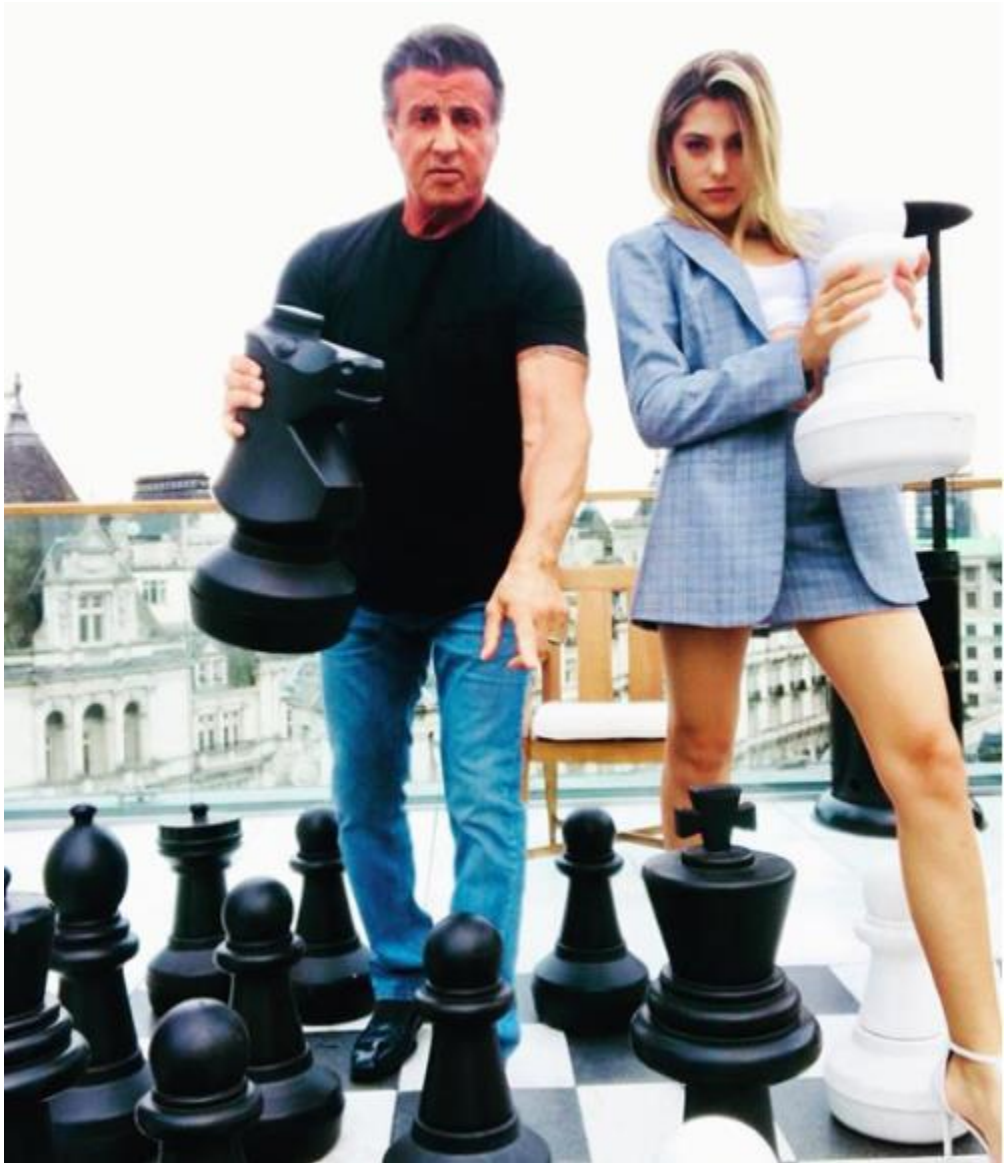
Will Smith

Sonny and Cher playing chess

George Soros playing Judit Polgar during a simul

Kevin Spacey playing Magnus Carlsen during a simul

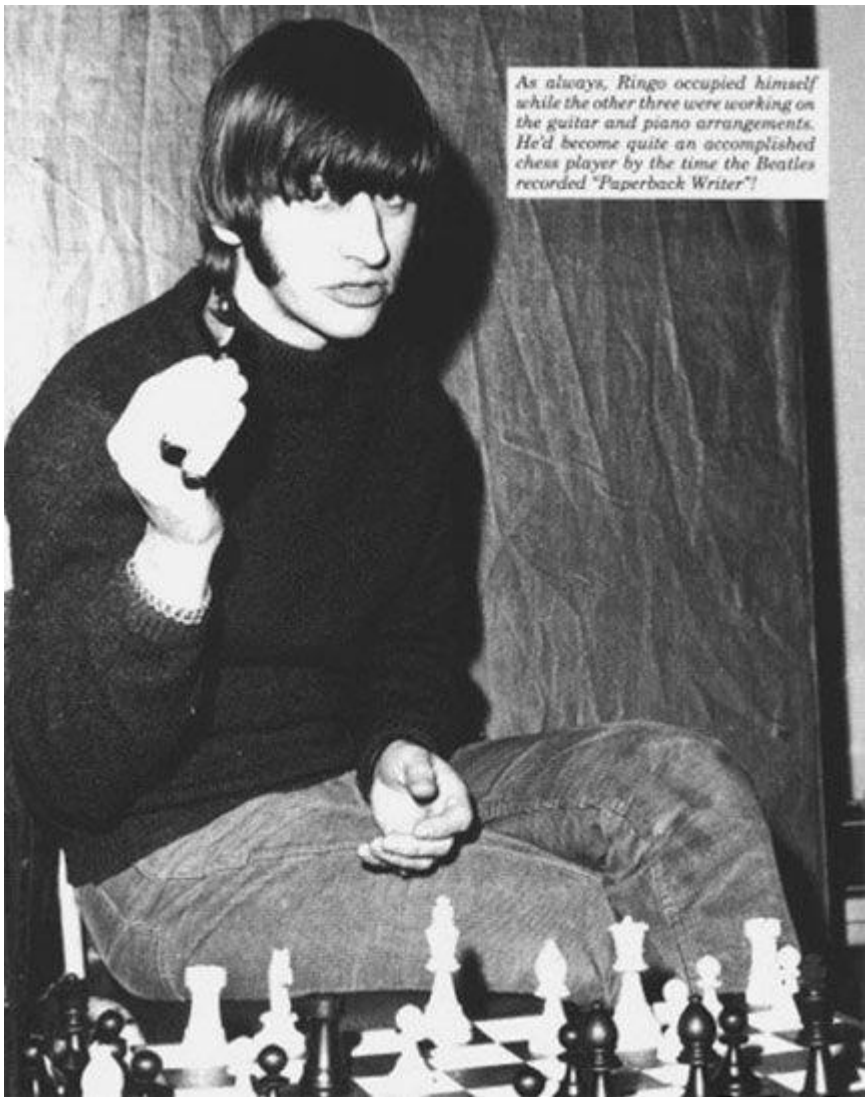
Kevin Spacey playing Magnus Carlsen during a simul



Sylvester Stallone

Barbara Stanwyck playing chess wth Frank Capra as Gary Cooper looks on

Ringo Starr


As always, Ringo occupied himself while the other three were working on the guitar and piano arrangements. He'd become quite an accomplished chess player by the time the Beatles recorded "Paperback Writer"!
Ringo Starr

Jimmy Stewart playing chess with Wendell Cory as Grace Kelly looks on

Sting

Sting playng Garry Kasparov in a simul

Kiefer Sutherland

Kiefer Sutherland

Dr. Edward Teller and family

Spencer Tracy playing chess with Herman Steiner

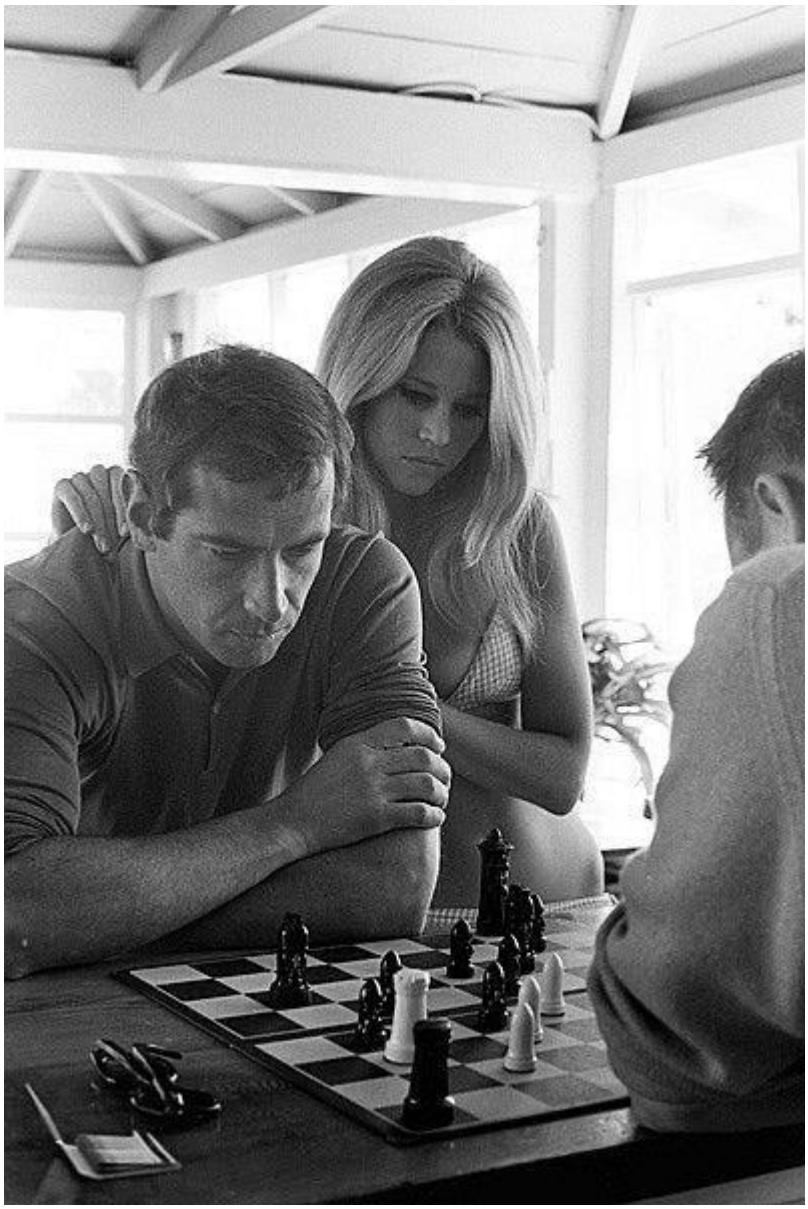
Harry Matosian

ADVICE On the set of M.G.M.'s Cass Timerlane, Lana Turner and Spencer Tracy (seated) are coached in a chess scene by chessmaster Herman Steiner (standing left) while George Sidney, director of the film, adds his advice.

Barron Trump, Donald Trump’a son

Mike Tyson and Arnold Schwarzenegger

John Urschel, former NFL football player

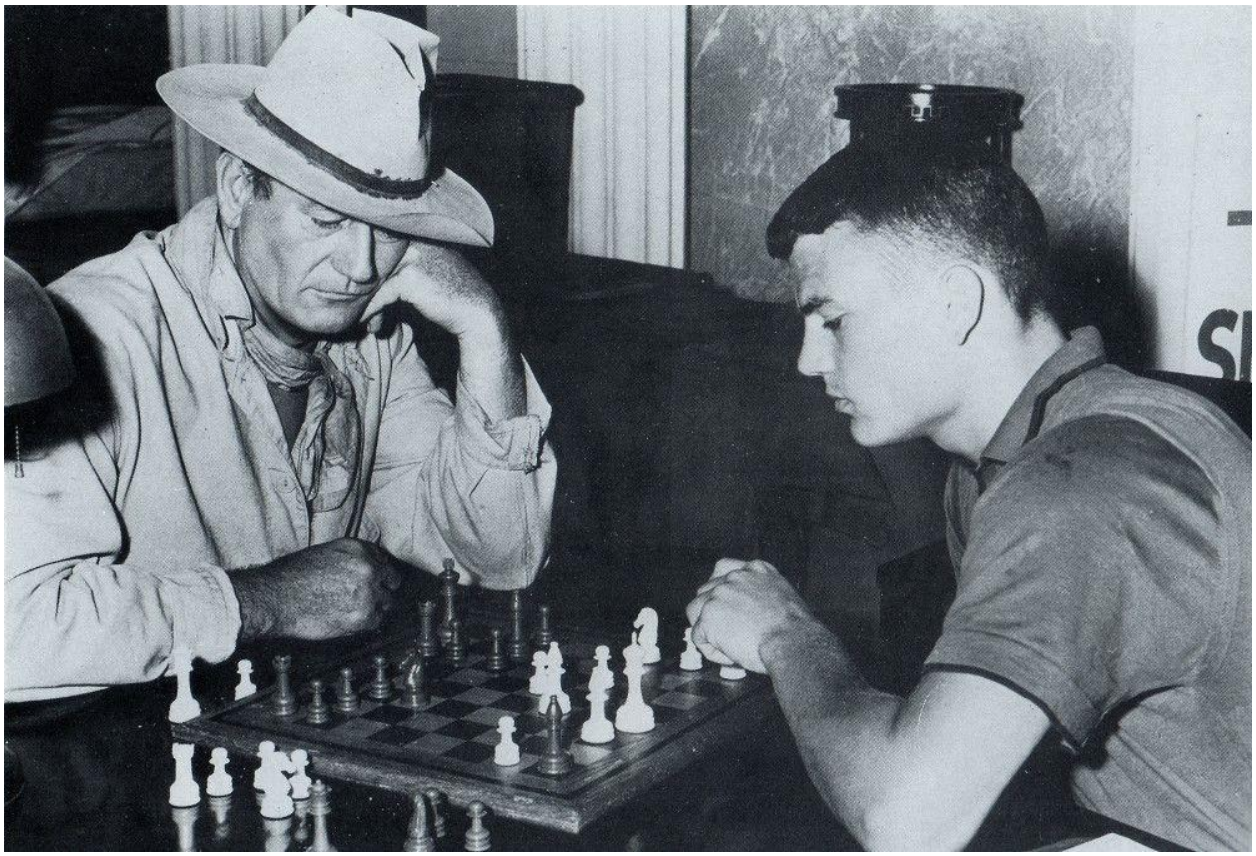


Roger Vadim playing chess as Jan Fonda looks on

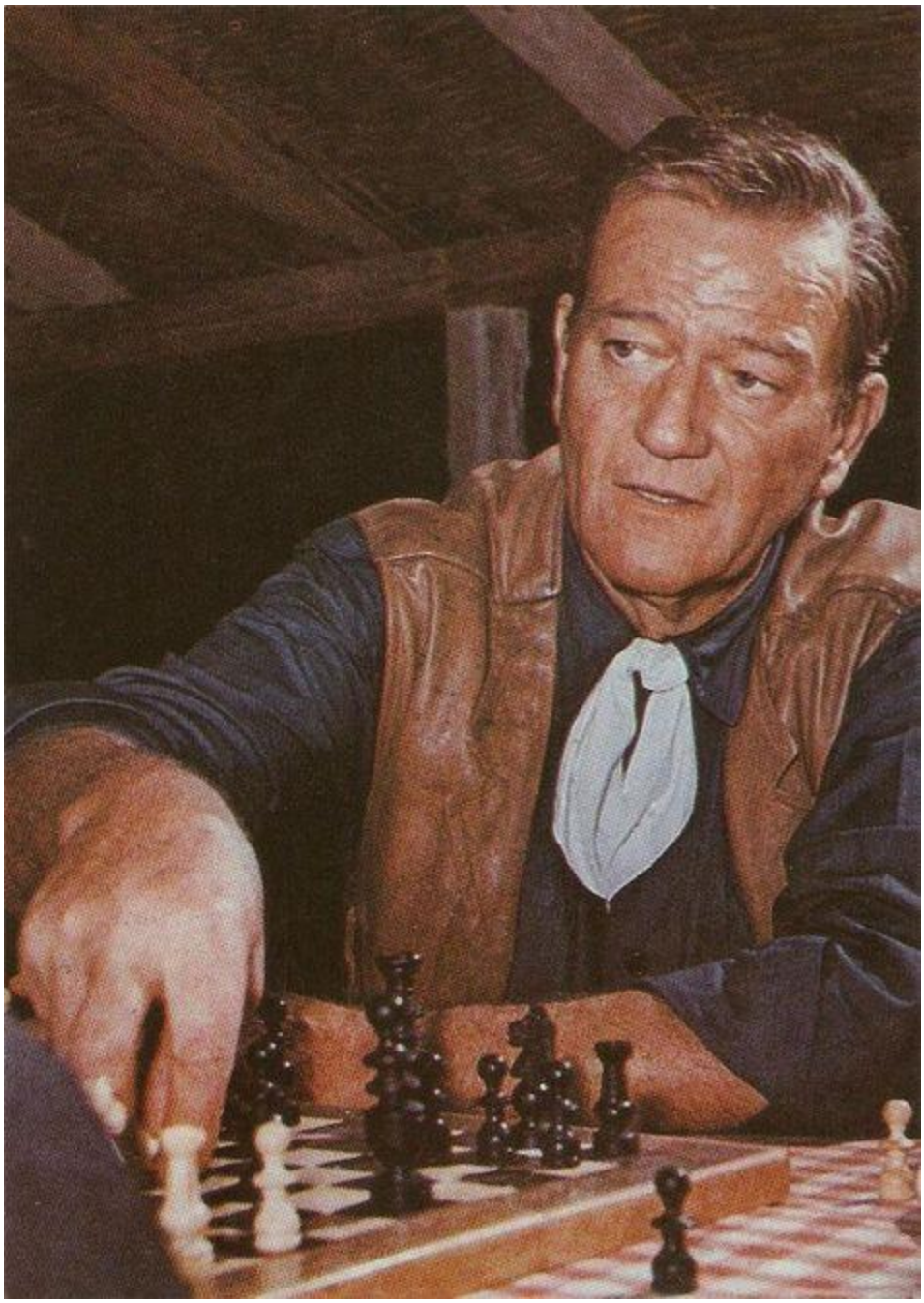
Bill Walton

Bill Walton

John Wayne



John Wayne and his son, Patrick



John Wayne

John Wayne

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John Wayne

Guy Williams

William Windom